Dedicated to our Revered Founder Chancellor

90th year of the Advent

love all serve all

SSSIHL 2015
Foreword

I am particularly delighted to script the introductory remarks to this year’s annual report, the release of which coincides with the glorious event of the 90th Birthday celebrations of our Revered Founder Chancellor, Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba. All of us at the university are perpetually driven by His mission to make unparalleled contributions to society through the pursuit of providing values-based free education and need-based research. In order to achieve this, we admit students with high levels of intellectual potential irrespective of social, religious and financial considerations; and subsequently, our talented faculty supports them through their academic journey. The extent of academic and non-academic support that is extended to students at SSSIHL is unequalled.

In the beginning of 2015, roughly two months into my term as Vice-Chancellor, in consultation with the Directors of Campuses, Faculty Deans and Heads of Departments, a tangible planning process that aims at identifying and establishing the priorities that would enable us to make wise choices for effective use of our available resources in the years to come was set in motion. This resulted in the consolidation of the Master of Business Administration (MBA) program, making it uniformly available across all campuses. This facilitates greater and easier movement of faculty from one campus to another, which in turn benefits the students immensely.

Subsequently, we developed a much more specific and strategic plan in an effort to bring about more visibility to the current academic programs. Towards this end, it was strongly felt that there was a pressing need to consolidate some of the programs in order to keep pace with other reputed universities- not just in rapidly growing areas such as Science and Technology, but also in Management and Humanities. The first step taken towards this was to make our Ph.D. programme more vibrant and attractive without sacrificing quality.

Interdisciplinary research is an essential component of innovation. It brings together different minds across various disciplines and emerging areas to converge and work together to make a greater impact on any program. This interdisciplinary thinking culminated in starting a new Postgraduate programme- M.Sc. in Materials Science. It will help cater to the requirements of multifunctional materials—with underlying science and technology—for a variety of industries. Postgraduate programmes in Computational Sciences and Weather Patterning are also under active consideration.

The university continues to invest in providing the best possible infrastructure and facilities for students and faculty. An advanced Research Centre to meet the aspirations of both the faculty and students cutting across various disciplines is being established. The Sri Sathya Sai Advanced Centre for Research and Development will house the latest equipment to facilitate need-based research in the areas of Materials Science, Physics, Chemistry, Biosciences, Food Sciences, Mathematics, Management and Humanities for years to come. It is expected to be operational in 2016.

As envisaged by our beloved Bhagawan, our contribution to society is reinforced by our research excellence. The research output at the university has seen a significant rise in the past few years. The number of research scholars has increased by 57% in the past five years. A good example of how SSSIHL research makes a difference is reflected in the launch of new research collaborations in the sciences between the university and external institutions such as the Food and Drug Administration (FDA), USA in areas such as rapid detection of endemic diseases, diabetic retinopathy, development of a cost effective multimodal microscope, regenerative medicines and tissue engineering, as well as collaborations on multiple research projects with Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Medical Sciences (SSSIHMS). Funding for research from DRDO, ISRO, DAE, DST, UGC, etc. is testimony to the rise in the quality of research at the institute.

I am indeed very proud to note that our faculty and research scholars published 110 journal papers and 119 conference papers in national and international journals of high repute during the academic year 2014/15, reflecting their perseverance towards achieving the goals set by our beloved Swami.

Each year, we invite distinguished guest speakers/visiting faculty from all over the globe for the benefit of our student community. I am proud to note that over 25% of eligible postgraduate students were successful in national level examinations such as GATE/JEST, CSIR-UGC NET, etc. in 2014/15.

Our admissions policy reflects the quality we look forward to in our academics. The acceptance rates at the university continue to be excellent. For entry in 2015, only 22% of undergraduate applicants and 21% of applicants to postgraduate and professional programmes were admitted. The student strength has increased by 18% over the last five years. It now stands at 1366. During the same period, the student-teacher ratio has improved from 10:1 to 8:1. We keep adding to the talent pool of our faculty every year. A total of fifteen new faculty members have been appointed during the academic year 2014/15.

The university administration takes this opportunity to thank the Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust for its active and effective support to the university. We humbly pray for Bhagawan’s blessings so that we may continue to demonstrate sustained progress towards the intended tasks as envisioned by Him.

Prof. K B R Varma
Vice-Chancellor
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Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning (SSSIHL), Prasanthi Nilayam, Andhra Pradesh, India, is a visible manifestation of Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba’s vision of education for human transformation.

The university hosts over 1300 undergraduate, postgraduate and professional programme students across four campuses:

**For women students:**
- Anantapur Campus at Anantapur, Andhra Pradesh

**For men students:**
- Prasanthi Nilayam Campus, at Puttaparthi, Andhra Pradesh
- Brindavan Campus, at Whitefield, Bangalore, Karnataka
- Muddenahalli Campus at Muddenahalli, near Chickaballapur, Karnataka

The university has a merit-based open admissions policy for all, irrespective of income, religion or region.

SSSIHL provides free education to students in all programmes of study. This includes waiver of all fees—tuition, examinations, laboratory, library, sports and medical.

Programmes offered include undergraduate, postgraduate, professional and research.

A Modern Gurukula
Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning was founded to inculcate ethical and moral values in students. These ethics and morals form the undercurrent of every subject taught at the university. Here, the development of a student’s character is just as important as imparting knowledge.

This holistic development of students can only be possible in an environment that encourages the development of the student’s mind, body and spirit.

To facilitate this, the university has a compulsory residential policy for all students. The environment is similar to the ancient Indian gurukula system of education, in a modern context. Teachers and students live and grow together in an atmosphere of mutual trust and unity.

Most students typically spend between two to five years pursuing an education at SSSIHL. As a result, what differentiates them from graduates of other universities is the transformation of their hearts, not just the training of their minds.

Residential Character
The compulsory residential system is an essential ingredient for the university’s Values-based Integral Education to achieve its objective of transformation. This is where the concept of the modern gurukula really comes to the fore. In fact, Bhagawan Baba Himself designed the entire system and its activities, right down to the daily routine of students!

Residential Teachers
Residential teachers voluntarily stay with students at the hostel. They choose this responsibility in addition to their academic and administrative workload. Like students, they also share rooms with typically two teachers in a room.

They perform three fundamental tasks:
- Ensure the all-round welfare of students
- Discharge specific duties for the upkeep of the hostel daily routine and general discipline
- Facilitate the smooth functioning of the hostel Self Reliance departments

RESIDENTIAL TEACHERS
1 in 4 teachers are residential
(Stay with the students in the hostel)

Students! You are the beneficiaries of totally free education at the Sai Institute. The gratitude you can show to the Institute is by your behaviour, as women and men of good character. Never be ungrateful to those who have been good to you. There is no greater sin than that.

Sri Sathya Sai Baba
Revered Founder Chancellor, SSSIHL
Values-based Integral Education

In the words of Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba, Reverend Founder Chancellor, SSSIHL:

Bhagawan Baba has designed the system of Sri Sathya Sai Values-based Integral Education in such a manner that between the time an 18-year old student joins the university and when she or he graduates (at the age of 21 or 23) there is a deep inner transformation that takes place. This concept is very unique at the university level.

The Process

The diagram on the right forms the basis of the system of Values-based Integral Education at SSSIHL.

The base is the concept of a modern gurukula that sustains all relationships and activities at SSSIHL. It is responsible for creating and sustaining the congenial environment necessary for the teacher-student interaction to grow and develop.

Adherence to discipline and appropriate behaviour are the two important aspects that encompass all interactions.

The five human values of Truth, Right Conduct, Peace, Love and Non-violence form the undercurrent of all the dimensions of integral education.

These dimensions are: Intellectual, Physical, Cultural, Devotional and Service. The key activities for each of these dimensions form the basis of most of the time that students spend at SSSIHL. (See page 13 for further information).

The outcome of the system of Values-based Integral Education at SSSIHL are threefold. It prepares all graduates to be:

- Spiritually aware
- Socially responsible and
- Professionally sound

For further information, visit sssihl.edu.in
University Governance

Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning (Deemed to be University) is an independent and self-governing institution. It was established by the Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning (Public Charitable Trust), which in turn has been established by the Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust. Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba is the founder of these Trusts.

The Trust

The Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning (Public Charitable Trust) was founded to foster the culture of India and promote in the students and teachers an awareness and understanding of the social needs of the country; with special focus to the needs of the rural population. It is aimed to inculcate in students a world perspective- an international outlook imbuing human values along with a spiritual and secular education. Its members for 2014/15 were:

- Sri Indulal H Shah, Former Chairman, SSS Seva Organisation
- Sri V Srinivasan, All India President, SSS Seva Organisation
- Justice A P Misra, Former Judge, Supreme Court of India
- Sri K Chakravarthi, Member-Secretary, Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust
- Sri T K K Bhagwath, Member, Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust
- Sri S S Naganand, Member, Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust
- Prof. S P Thyagarajan, Former Vice-Chancellor, University of Madras
- Sri R J Rathnakar, Member, Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust

The Principal Bodies

The administrative and academic functioning of the university is carried out by the following two principal bodies:

1. The Board of Management
2. The Academic Council

Board of Management

The Board of Management is the principal authority of the university, responsible for its general management and administration.

Its members for 2014/15 were:

- Prof. K B R Varma, Vice-Chancellor, SSSIHL (Chairman)
- Sri S S Naganand, Member, Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust Nominee, SSSIHL (Public Charitable Trust)
- Prof. K S Rangappa, Vice-Chancellor, University of Mysore, Karnataka
- Prof. Sujata Ramadorai, Professor of Mathematics, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai
- Prof. D Swaminadhan, Chairman, Dr. D Swaminadhan Research Foundation (DSRF)
- Dr. Mohan Kanda, Former Chief Secretary, Govt. of Andhra Pradesh (Nominee, MHRD, Govt. of India)
- Prof. Radhakrishnan Nair, Dean, Faculty of Management & Commerce, SSSIHL
- Prof. (Miss) Madhu Kapari, Dean, Faculty of Economics & Humanities, SSSIHL
- Prof. (Miss) Rajeshwari C Patel, Professor, Dept. of English Language & Literature, SSSIHL
- Prof. (Miss) Ch Radhakumari, Professor, Dept. of Management & Commerce, SSSIHL
- Dr. Naren Ramji, Registrar, SSSIHL (Secretary)


Academic Council

The Academic Council is the principal academic body of the university. It has general control over and is responsible for the maintenance of standards of teaching, research and training, approval of syllabus, coordination of research activities, and examinations and tests within the university. Its external members for 2014/15 were:

- Prof. V Nagaraja, Dept. of Molecular and Cell Biology, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore
- Dr. (Mrs) Asna Urooj, Professor & Chairperson, Dept. of Food Science & Nutrition (Postgraduate), University of Mysore, Karnataka
- Prof. K A Suresh, Former Director and Scientist, Centre for Nano and Soft Matter Sciences, Bangalore
- Prof. Mewa Singh, Life-long Distinguished Professor, University of Mysore, Karnataka
- Prof. D Basavalah, Department of Organic Chemistry, University of Hyderabad
- Prof. (Mrs.) Priya Nair Rajeey, Professor in Management, IIM Kozhikode, Kerala

The Academic Council met on 15 October 2014.

Important Committees

In addition to the principal bodies that govern the university, there are various committees that have been set up to ensure that academics and administration are in accordance with the high standards that SSSIHL has striven to consistently maintain. Some of these committees include:

- Boards of Studies
- Finance Committee
- Planning and Monitoring Board
- Internal Quality Assurance Cell
- Research Advisory Board
- Institutional Ethics Committee
- Institutional Biosafety Committee
- Building and Works Committee
- Campus-Hostel Management Committee
- Research Conferences Cell

For further information, visit sssihl.edu.in
University Structure

Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning (Deemed to be University) has been established by Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning (Public Charitable Trust), which in turn has been established by Sri Sathya Sai Central Trust. Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba is the founder of these Trusts.
FIVE YEAR REVIEW

Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning continues to dedicatedly pursue the vision of the Founder Chancellor in all areas.

The following few pages present an infographic overview of the trends and growth in all domains of the university between 2011 and 2015— from investment in infrastructure and teachers to research quality, from admissions numbers to the focus on integral education.

SSSIHL was assessed by NAAC in January 2011. The assessment criteria of NAAC includes: Curricular aspects, Teaching-learning and Evaluation, Research, Consultancy and Extension, Infrastructure and Learning Resources, Student support and Progression, Governance and Leadership, and Innovative practices.

SMALLER CLASS SIZE

With less than nine pupils per class on average, the student-to-teacher ratio at SSSIHL favourably allows teachers to work one-on-one with students and give them more individual attention.

A lower student-to-teacher ratio also encourages greater student participation in class. In smaller groups, students feel more accountable and comfortable participating in class discussions— and this greater degree of accountability leads to better grades and higher levels of achievement.

As a result, SSSIHL students have consistently performed very well— both in internal and external/national tests and examinations.

NEW ACADEMIC PROGRAMMES

The following new undergraduate, postgraduate and professional programmes have been added since 2011:

- B.B.A. & B.C.A.
- M.C.A.
- Master of Education (M.Ed.)
- M.B.A. for Women
- M.Sc. in Materials Science

STUDENT - TEACHER RATIO

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Undergraduate</th>
<th>Postgraduate &amp; Professional</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1366</td>
<td>161</td>
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Overall Trends 2011 - 2015
STUDENT DIVERSITY

Students from all parts of the country are admitted to SSSIHL. This is a conscious effort made by the university.

When students with diverse cultures and varied economic backgrounds live in dormitory-styled accommodation with 10-14 students staying together in a room, the pan-Indian character of the university comes alive in the hostel.

Students learn to adjust with one another and live together in harmony, and this diversity contributes to a rich and stimulating learning environment that brings out the best in students.

STUDENT PROFILE

The student strength has steadily increased from 1159 in 2011 to 1366 in 2015. This 18% increase in five years has been supplemented by an increase in teaching staff by 33% (see next page).

Student performance in examinations—both internal and external, continues to be outstanding.

EXAMINATIONS PASS PERCENTAGE 2014/15

- Undergraduate Programmes: 92%
- Postgraduate & Professional Programmes: 96%

AVERAGE % of eligible students who passed GATE/JEST and CSIR-UGC NET each year

2014/15

18% increase in STUDENT STRENGTH

19%
STAFF PROFILE

The university continues to attract high quality teachers. 97 of the current 161 teachers have a Ph.D. qualification and an additional 24 teachers are currently pursuing their doctoral research.

In the past five years, the faculty strength has increased by 33%. The administrative to academic staff ratio is 1:2.3, which is much lower than other Indian universities.

VISITING FACULTY

The unique philosophy and vision of the Revered Founder Chancellor, Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba inspires over 130 noteworthy academicians and senior corporate executives, who volunteer to visit the university on an on-going basis each year to share their knowledge and experience with students and faculty.

They add a unique perspective to the courses taught and provide students with exposure to wider academic and real world scenarios. Quite a few of them teach syllabi spanning an entire semester.
TIME SPENT ON INTEGRAL EDUCATION BY SSSIHL STUDENTS

Bhagawan Baba purposefully designed the system of Integral Education so that while students spend 60% of their time on academics (intellectual capacities), they also spend 40% time on the development of other qualities. These qualities include a spiritual awareness, cultural talents, physical capacities (sports and games) and fine tuning their higher sense of service to fellow human beings.

OUTCOMES

Together, these Integral Education dimensions help develop a strong character and positive qualities in students, including a broadened perspective on life, self-confidence and self-reliance, dignity of labour and respect for work, determination, dedication and commitment, sense of equanimity, creativity and innovation, teamwork, selfless service, leadership, entrepreneurship, time management and the quest for excellence.
INFRASTRUCTURE & FACILITIES

The university, with the support of Sri Sathya Central Trust, continues to invest in providing the best infrastructure and resources to students for academic, research and other integral education activities.

The portfolio of infrastructure of the university includes Campus Buildings & Grounds, Classrooms & Auditoriums, Laboratories & Computer Centres, Hostels, Multimedia and Library facilities, Networking & Communications and Sports facilities.

STUDENT – COMPUTER RATIO

SSIHL has one of the best Student to Computer ratios in the country, with less than 3 students per computer (with the use of computers always being 1:1). In addition to this, high speed broadband internet connectivity, classrooms equipped with multimedia and video conferencing facilities at each campus assist in maximising the benefits of teaching and research at the university.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

NEW BUILDINGS AT SSSIHL

In the past five years, a number of new projects have been completed. The major ones are highlighted here in chronological order.

NEW BUILDING
Anantapur Campus, May 2011

A new building fully equipped with modern classrooms and student accommodation was built to accommodate the growing population of students and doctoral research scholars at the women’s campus.

HOSTEL Extension BUILDING
Prasanthi Nilayam Campus, 2014

To accommodate the steady increase in the number of doctoral research scholars and students, a new Hostel extension was commissioned in 2013 and was operational in the academic year 2014/15.

 graphs, bar charts, and tables related to expenditures and trends are also mentioned.
TEACHERS & STAFF ACCOMMODATION  
Anantapur Campus, 2014

The Anantapur Campus for women is the biggest campus of the university—both in terms of size and student numbers. The new teachers’ accommodation consists of apartments and the quarters that house the contingent staff of the campus.

THE ANNEXE  
Prasanthi Nilayam Campus, early 2015

This beautifully lit 44,000 sq.ft. building spans over three floors and hosts a number of classrooms, a conference hall, offices and a large atrium.

HOSTEL BUILDING  
Muddenahalli Campus, late 2015

The new hostel for students of the Muddenahalli Campus can accommodate up to 300 students, which is over twice the current student strength at the campus.

SRI SATHYA SAI ADVANCED CENTRE FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT  
Prasanthi Nilayam Campus, early 2016

A new facility that will promote advanced research at SSSIHL across all departments.

For further information, see page 25.
To facilitate wider exposure to the developments in academia and industry and enable the exchange of ideas, the university conducted twelve national and international workshops and conferences during the course of the academic year 2014/15.

Mathematics & Computer Science

Math in Action: Role of Mathematics Applied in the Contemporary World
Brindavan Campus, 23 Aug 2014

The workshop highlighted the application of mathematical concepts in problems of everyday life in four distinct areas: Healthcare, Insurance, eCommerce and Cryptography. The speakers included SSSIHL alumni currently specializing in these fields.

External Experts / Invited Guests from:
GE Healthcare, Ernst & Young, Adobe

Computer Vision & Machine Learning
Prasanthi Nilayam Campus, 10-13 Dec 2014

The first two days of the event comprised of tutorials on Fundamental predictive tools used by data-mining practitioners and Subspace Clustering.

The last two days consisted mainly of invited talks. Topics ranged from Video Big Data Systems: Applications and Assessments to Recent Advances in Clustering Theory.

External Experts / Invited Guests from:
IBM, IIT Delhi, Michigan State University, IIT Hyderabad, Yahoo Labs, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, IIT Ropar

Physics

Algorithmic Thinking and Problem Solving
Prasanthi Nilayam Campus, 1 Nov 2014

A hands-on workshop that presented systematic ways of analysing problems and applying appropriate techniques chosen among several classic algorithm design techniques in order to develop solutions to numerous problems that arise in many different domains.

External Expert / Invited Guest from: National University, San Diego, CA, USA

Frontiers in Nanoscience, Technology & Application (FINSTA) 2014
Prasanthi Nilayam Campus, 20-24 Dec 2014

FINSTA 2014 brought together international members from the diverse Nanoresearch community to i) showcase the latest in nanoresearch to industry and academia; ii) enhance the evolution of collaborative vision through emerging research challenges and questions; and iii) provide a forum through which the Nanoscience community may collaborate to develop the next generation of everyman Nanotechnologies (both novel and applicable).

External Experts / Invited Guests from:
Clemson University, USA, Indian Institute of Science, Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia, Italy, Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, IIT Hyderabad, Sai Hira India Foundation and several others

Chemistry

Interface in Chemical and Biological Sciences: Biochemical Exploration and Conceptualization (BEACON)
Brindavan Campus, 21 Feb 2015

The workshop explored the inter-relationship and interdependence between the fields of Biosciences and Chemistry. Topics included Electrochemistry of Nanochemistry, Structure-based design of inhibitors, Metagenomics, Genomics of restriction– modification systems, etc.

External Experts / Invited Guests from:
Raman Research Institute, Indian Institute of Science, National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER)
Management Studies & Commerce

Big data for Banking and Finance
Brindavan Campus, 16 Aug 2014

The symposium addressed the understanding of the concepts of 'Big Data' and its impact on businesses, customers and other stakeholders. Emerging trends, challenges and adoption of big data were presented and moderated through additional insights, observations, and questions & answers.

External Experts / Invited Guests from:
UBS AG, Broadridge Financial Services, Cognizant, Fidelity, Accenture

Rural Entrepreneurship & Marketing
Muddenahalli Campus, 13 Dec 2014

The workshop focused on the challenges of rural economic development and explored how the spirit of creative entrepreneurship can help transform the rural economic landscape. Innovations in Indian agriculture, rural tourism, healthcare, small scale industries and other ideas were discussed. Students learnt techniques on how to develop better creative and thinking skills and how successful rural entrepreneurship and marketing necessitates thinking outside the box.

External Experts / Invited Guests from:
Sri Sesha Sai (Diplomat and the representative of Seychelles for India)

Habits for achieving Personal and Interpersonal Effectiveness
Prasanthi Nilayam Campus, 26 Dec 2014

A workshop for the II MBA students based on the practical teachings from the popular book, The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People by Stephen Covey.

External Experts / Invited Guests from:
NIIT Technologies, Philippines

INFRAQUEST: Infrastructure - Challenges & Prospects
Brindavan Campus, 14 Feb 2015

Infrastructure is an area that is slowing down India's emerging economic power status. The workshop discussed these challenges and possible solutions to it from the point of view of governance and policy, finance, law and regulation relating to infrastructure.

External Experts / Invited Guests from:

The Power of Values
Muddenahalli Campus, 14-15 Feb 2015

An annual Management Development Programme that focused on the importance of a values-based education leading to ethical and moral business practices. Areas such as courage (in the face of corruption and other real world challenges), self awareness, perceptual variation, etc. were discussed in detail. The programme stressed the importance of Sai students practicing the values inculcated at SSSIHL after graduation.
External Experts / Invited Guests from:
SSSIHL alumni, InSAI Consultants, TATA Hitachi, Tata Consultancy Services, Dell, Tech Mahindra, Christ University

Lean Six Sigma: A Paradigm for Business Excellence
Prasanthi Nilayam Campus, 20-21 Feb 2015

The workshop focused on quality management and delved into the major concepts of lean methodologies in quality- the Six Sigma paradigm, leadership for change management, business acumen in quality initiatives and project management. Students learnt the importance of harmoniously blending both hard and soft skills involved in managing lean quality systems.

Sub-Department of Philosophy

Applied Ethics
Anantapur Campus 14-15 Feb 2015

Applied Ethics explored the philosophical essence of particular issues in private and public life that involved matters of moral judgment. It attempted to use philosophical methods to identify the morally correct course of action in various fields and situations in human life. For example, the moral obligations of a citizen towards his nation in utilizing his adult franchise, one’s moral obligation towards global poverty, etc.

Each day had a theme and all deliberations explored that theme in details. These included Relation between Truth and Non-Violence, Before and After Gandhi, Chanakya on Ethical Leadership, Eco Feminism, Biomedical Ethics, Academic Ethics, Media Ethics and Is Science moving Towards Spirituality?

New Faculty

Fifteen new faculty joined the SSSIHL family in 2014/15, bringing the total number of teaching faculty to 161.

- Sri B Venkatramana, Associate Professor, Dept. of Mathematics & Computer Science
- Sri Pakala Chandrasekhar, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Mathematics & Computer Science
- Dr. (Mrs.) Sreerangavani K, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Mathematics & Computer Science
- Ms. V Prathyusha, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Chemistry
- Dr. V N S Malleswara Kota D, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Biosciences
- Dr. Anandkumar K, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Biosciences
- Dr. (Mrs.) Swetha Thiruchanuru, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Management & Commerce
- Dr. (Mrs.) G Padmavathy, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Management & Commerce
- Dr. Sanjay Mahalingam, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Management & Commerce
- Ms. Vyshnavidevi B, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Management & Commerce
- Miss Neetu Gupta, Asst. Professor, Dept. of Education
- Dr. M B S S Narayana, Asst. Professor in Sanskrit
- Dr. A Sunil, Research Faculty, Dept. of Chemistry
- Sri Abishek H, Teaching Assistant, Dept. of Physics
- Sri Satheesan S, Teaching Assistant, Dept. of English Language & Literature

SSSIHL alumni, InSAI Consultants, TATA Hitachi, Tata Consultancy Services, Dell, Tech Mahindra, Christ University

For further information, visit sssihl.edu.in

New Programmes

A consolidation of academic programmes led to the merger of two major departments- Management Studies and Commerce, to form the Department of Management & Commerce.

Two new programmes- MBA and Master in Education (M.Ed.) were introduced for women students at the Anantapur Campus in June 2014.

Projects & Dissertations

Listed below are the key topics/areas of postgraduate and professional programme projects and dissertations.

MATHMATICS & COMPUTER SCIENCE

M.Sc. in Mathematics and M.Tech. in Computer Science

PHYSICS

B.Sc. (Hon.s) in Physics, M.Sc. in Physics, M.Sc. in Nanoscience and Nanotechnology and M.Tech. in Optoelectronics & Communications and Nuclear Medicine

CHEMISTRY

M.Sc. in Chemistry and M.Tech. in Analytical Methods & Chemical Instrumentation
Dibenzyldienecycloalkanone Derivatives, Kinase inhibitors, Molecular Level Interactions, Ethanol Electrooxidation, Cyclic Glucan, Carbon Nanotubes.

BIOSCIENCES

M.Sc. in Biosciences
Homocysteine, Pila globosa, water soluble carbon quantum dots, Bioinformatics (Ovarian and Prostate Cancer).

HOME SCIENCE

M.Sc. in Food Technology and M.Sc. in Food Science & Nutrition
MANAGEMENT & COMMERCE
M.B.A., M.B.A. in Finance and M.F.M.

ECONOMICS
M.A. in Economics
Coal Sector, Demand For Money, Foreign Institutional Investment, Balance of Payments, Interest Rates.

EDUCATION
Master of Education (M.Ed.)
Role of Seva in developing civic responsibility, Impact of congregational singing on the emotional intelligence of school children.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE
M.A. in English Language & Literature
Critique of Richard Flanagan's The Narrow Road to the Deep North, Emily Dickinson: A Critical Study of Select Poems

Best All-Round Students
The Best All-Round Student Gold Medal recognises a final year student from each campus who excels in all five dimensions of the Sri Sathya Sai system of Values-based Integral Education-Intellectual, Cultural, Physical, Devotional and Service. The winners for 2014/15 were:

Sai Kiran M
Anantapur Campus
III B.Sc. (Hons) in Chemistry

Adarsh Saraf
Prasanthi Nilayam Campus
II M.Sc. in Mathematics

Santosh C R
Brindavan Campus
III B.Sc. (Hons) in Physics

Sandeepr K Chavan
Muddenahalli Campus
III B.B.M.

Organizational Visits
MATHEMATICS & COMPUTER SCIENCE

PHYSICS

MANAGEMENT & COMMERCE


Other Activities
Final year M.Tech. in Optoelectronics & Communications students, Dept. of Physics, SSSIHL presented two demonstration papers and one research paper at the IEEE International Conference on Advanced Networks and Telecommunications Systems (IEEE-ANTS) Conference, New Delhi, 14-17 December 2014.

National Examinations
23% of SSSIHL final-year postgraduate students qualified in national exams such as GATE/JEST or CSIR-UGC NET in 2014/15. The list below includes the national rank for each exam.

J Adithya (Physics)
13 (CSIR-JRF) | 7 (JEST) | 3 (GATE)

Adarsh Saraf (Mathematics)
23 (CSIR-LS) | 30 (GATE)

Srimalla Srikanth (Mathematics)
36 (CSIR-JRF) | 30 (GATE)

Sai Ganesh M (Mathematics)
28 (CSIR-LS) | 60 (GATE)

T S S Babu (Physics)
62 (JEST) | 62 (GATE)

Akash Bajpai (Biosciences)
39 (CSIR) | 199 (GATE)

N Ganesh (Physics)
205 (JEST) | 88 (GATE)

Goturu Sai Sudheer (Computer Science)
161 (GATE)

Anirudh Kumar (Computer Science)
307 (GATE)

GV S Manohar (Physics)
82 (CSIR-JRF) | 398 (JEST) | 341 (GATE)

Gaurav D’Verma (Physics)
341 (JEST)

K S Adithya (Physics)
1098 (GATE)

Parth Gupta (Chemistry)
1116 (GATE)

Chaitanya Pavan Tanay (Computer Science)
1517 (GATE)

Sai Gowrang Patnaik (Chemistry)
1597 (GATE)

Yogesh Murthy (Computer Science)
1713 (GATE)

Krishna Chaitanya (Electrical Communication Engineering)
5384 (GATE)

Sanju Singh (Computer Science)
4806 (GATE)

Suriya Narayanan (Computer Science)
5083 (GATE)

V Sai Rama (Computer Science)
6603 (GATE)

Gaurav Valecha (Management) (NET)
Faculty Activities & Achievements

Mathematics & Computer Science

Prof. V Chandrasekaran
- Invited talk on Pixel to Patient Care at a workshop on Translation of Research in Image Processing to Clinical Image Based Diagnostic Procedure, Sona College of Technology, Salem, 28 Aug 2014.

Dr. Pallav Kumar Baruah
- Innovation Award 2014 (instituted by NVIDIA for exemplary research work and contribution towards GPU research), Invited talk on GPUs Giving Wings to Computational Science, and Panel Discussion participant (To build an academic environment for the growth of High Performance Computing research in India and Future Activities in the Area of High Performance Computing in India), IEEE International Conference on High Performance Computing (HiPC 2014), Goa, 17-20 Dec 2014.

Dr. S Balasubramanian
- Invited to head a technical discussion on the relevance of Singular Value Decomposition to problems in Computer Science (particularly Image and Video Processing), Sona College of Technology, Salem, 28 Feb 2015.

Dr. R Raghunatharma

Sri Sai Shyam

Sri Ajith Padyana
- Attended International Parallel and Distributed Processing Symposium (IPDPS), an international forum for engineers and scientists from around the world, Hyderabad, 25-29 May, 2015.
- Panel Discussion participant (To build an academic environment for the growth of High Performance Computing research in India) at IEEE International Conference on High Performance Computing (HiPC 2014), Goa, 17-20 Dec 2014.

Dr. Krishna Kiran Vamsi Dasu
- Best Research Poster Award 2015, Stream of Mathematical Sciences (Including Statistics), 102nd Indian Science Congress, 3-7 Jan 2015.

Physics

Dr. (Mrs.) Dwaraka Rani Rao

Dr. Krishna Chaitanya V
- Technical Programme Committee Member, 12th International Conference on Fiber Optics and Photonics, IIT Kharagpur, India, 13-16 Dec 2014.

Dr. (Miss) Deepa Seetharaman
- Delivered four lectures, supervised lab sessions and served as a Resource person at the Science Academies’ 63rd Refresher Course in Experimental Physics, Dept. of Physics, Sri Krishnadevaraya University, Anantapur, 8-21 Oct 2014.

Mrs. C Prathibha
- Resource person at the Science Academies’ 63rd Refresher Course in Experimental Physics, Dept. of Physics, Sri Krishnadevaraya University, Anantapur, 8-21 Oct 2014.

Chemistry

Dr. D Rajesh Babu

Biosciences

Sri A S Vishwanathan
- Best Paper Award for the paper Studying factors affecting electrogenic activity in microbial fuel cells, National Conference on Recent Trends in Microbial Biotechnology, Osmania University, Hyderabad, 26-28 Feb 2015.

Home Science

Dr. (Mrs.) B Andallu
- Keynote speech on Natural Remedies for Stress-Induced Diseases (Diabetes, Cancer and Inflammatory Diseases), U6 International Conference, Cape Town Peninsula University of Technology, Cape Town, South Africa, 8-10 Sep 2014.

Management & Commerce

Prof. A Sudhir Bhaskar
- Resource person, Executive Develop-
21

Sai Krishna Award for Excellence in Teaching

The Sai Krishna Award for Research and Teaching has been instituted to honour the top researchers and teachers of SSSIHL. The awards alternate between top researchers and top teachers every year. Evaluation of candidates for the awards is done by an external panel of experts. The winners for excellence in teaching (one from each campus), 2014 were:

**Dr. (Miss) T R Rajeswari**
Associate Professor, Dept. of Commerce
Anantapur Campus

**Dr. Shailesh Srivastava**
Asst. Professor, Dept. of Physics
Prasanthi Nilayam Campus

**Sri Rajkumar Jain**
Associate Professor, Dept. of Physics
Brindavan Campus

**Sri V Bhaskaran**
Asst. Professor, Dept. of Mathematics & Computer Science
Muddenahalli Campus

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Prasanthi Nilayam Campus

**Sri Rajkumar Jain**
Associate Professor, Dept. of Physics
Brindavan Campus

**Sri V Bhaskaran**
Asst. Professor, Dept. of Mathematics & Computer Science
Muddenahalli Campus

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Economics

**Dr. R Prabhakar Rao**
- Chaired a technical session and Invited talk on Some Recent Advances in Predictive Analytics in Big Data, National Seminar on the Recent Advances in Data Analytics and its Applications, Andhra University, Visakhapatnam, 13-14 Mar 2015.

**Sri G Raghavender Raju**
- Resource Person and Session Chair (two sessions), National Level workshop on Econometrics with Computer Applications (ECONOMETRICS-IV), Chhatrapati Shahu Institute of Business Education and Research (CSIBER), Kolhapur, Maharashtra, 9-10 Mar 2015.


**Dr. N Venkatesha Rao**
- Received a special award, Vidya Raja Mani, for finding out Srishi prakriya in vedic commentaries on the topic Mushti Srushti and Sarasvari by Atareya Shodha Pitham and Bhanadarakerrinutt, Bangalore, 17 Jul 2014.

**Sri Mahabala Rao M G**
- Paper Presentation for the paper Bhara- mata Deshe Bhaashaanaam Shikshanam Samasyaaha tat Samaaadhanaanacha, National Conference on Rethinking Language Teaching in India, Jain University, Bangalore, 2-3 Mar 2015.

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**Education**

**Miss Neetu Gupta**

**Miss Maitali Verma**

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**Sub-Departments & Languages**

**Dr. (Mrs.) M Praphulla**
- Resource Person, National Seminar on Translations and Adaptations of Sanskrit literature, Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady, Kerala, 12-13 Feb 2015.

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**Economics**

**Prof. A Anantha Raman**
- Invitation as Resource person/Coordinator or Conference Leader at Harvard Business School, USA, Lubin School of Business, USA, Bahadur Institute of Management, Mysore, Christ College, Bangalore and other Advanced Management Programmes at several Business schools in India and abroad, throughout the academic year 2014/15.

**Sri Sanjay Sahni**

**Dr. Sayee Manohar K**
- Session Chair and Resource person, ICSSR-sponsored National Seminar on Social Rejuvenation through Corporate Social Responsibility, K S Rangasamy College of Arts & Science, Tiruchengode, 20 Sep 2014.

**Dr. (Miss) T R Rajeswari**

**Dr. N Sivakumar**
- Resource person, Workshop on Human Values and Professional Ethics, Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University (JNTUA), Anantapur, 5 Jul 2014.

- Runner-up, Thematic paper contest for the paper Bridging the Gap Between Concept and Business – Understanding The True Role of FDI in Life Insurance, Insurance Institute of India, Mumbai, 2015.

- Paper Presentation for the paper Bridging the Gap Between Concept and Business – Understanding The True Role of FDI in Life Insurance, 116th Mid-Term Council Conference, Insurance Institute of India, Udaipur, 14 Mar 2015.

**Dr. N Venkatesha Rao**
- Received a special award, Vidya Raja Mani, for finding out Srishi prakriya in vedic commentaries on the topic Mushti Srushti and Sarasvari by Atareya Shodha Pitham and Bhanadarakerrinutt, Bangalore, 17 Jul 2014.

**Sri Mahabala Rao M G**
- Paper Presentation for the paper Bhara- mata Deshe Bhaashaanaam Shikshanam Samasyaaha tat Samaaadhanaanacha, National Conference on Rethinking Language Teaching in India, Jain University, Bangalore, 2-3 Mar 2015.

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**English Language & Literature**

**Miss Maitali Verma**

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Sub-Departments & Languages

**Dr. (Mrs.) M Praphulla**
- Resource Person, National Seminar on Translations and Adaptations of Sanskrit literature, Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady, Kerala, 12-13 Feb 2015.

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- Paper Presentation for the paper Bhara- mata Deshe Bhaashaanaam Shikshanam Samasyaaha tat Samaaadhanaanacha, National Conference on Rethinking Language Teaching in India, Jain University, Bangalore, 2-3 Mar 2015.

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**Economics**

**Dr. R Prabhakar Rao**
- Chaired a technical session and Invited talk on Some Recent Advances in Predictive Analytics in Big Data, National Seminar on the Recent Advances in Data Analytics and its Applications, Andhra University, Visakhapatnam, 13-14 Mar 2015.

**Sri G Raghavender Raju**
- Resource Person and Session Chair (two sessions), National Level workshop on Econometrics with Computer Applications (ECONOMETRICS-IV), Chhatrapati Shahu Institute of Business Education and Research (CSIBER), Kolhapur, Maharashtra, 9-10 Mar 2015.

Research at SSSIHL is focused on societal benefit.

In the field of science today, there is great emphasis on research and discovery. But unless the results of research are applied in practice, it will be an expensive futility. If all the time is spent on research, when is it to find useful application in practice? Nor is there any sense of discrimination in the promotion of research.

Sri Sathya Sai Baba
Revered Founder Chancellor, SSSIHL

True to the word of the Revered Founder Chancellor, all research at SSSIHL is need-based and ultimately leads to societal benefit. This applies to all three faculties at the university, Sciences, Management & Commerce and Economics & Humanities.

Sciences

The key research focus areas for the Faculty of Science are Health, Environment and Energy.

The five science departments of the university—Chemistry, Physics, Bioscience, Mathematics & Computer Science and Home Science have oriented their research programs to translate the vision of the Revered Founder Chancellor of serving society through education and research.

Transcending the well established and familiar boundaries of disciplinary silos, all the science departments have worked hard over the past five years to establish transdisciplinary research in the sciences.

It is endeavoured to make new materials and devices; discover novel mechanisms of synthesis, and identify their properties and functions by exploring research questions at the intersection of the respective fields.

In the Healthcare domain, joint research projects are being undertaken by scientists from varied subject backgrounds along with clinicians at Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Medical Sciences. These include Automatic Medical Image segmentation techniques for rapid disease screening purposes and In silico drug design of various synthetic and semi-synthetic analogs of medical extracts. The phytochemicals identified from conventional and unconventional foods are tested for their bioefficacy as anti-diabetic, antioxidant, anti-microbial agents using in vitro models. The use of elliptic curve cryptographic techniques for image encryption, digital signatures is also being researched.

In the field of Environment, research in metal ion sensing, their removal using green routes, and metal hybrid catalysts for bioremediation of pollutants is being pursued. Theoretical studies on design of low cost solutions for wellness of crops and a pest free ecosystem is also being undertaken.

Natural biopolymers are being explored as novel edible coating on foods for bio-preservation. Low cost dehydration food technology namely osmo-air dehydration is also being researched.

In the area of Energy applications, efficient energy materials for...
photovoltaic applications, optimized dielectric property based energy storage devices are being studied. Cost effective materials for rural applications and use in windows, doors, etc. using groundnut shell and rice husk are also being researched.

Management & Commerce

The exploration of the symbiotic relationship between business and society has been the focus of a number of research studies at the department.

Several key areas have been explored within the major research focus of Business & Society Ecosystem.

Social Entrepreneurship. The research endeavours to explore the apparent dichotomy that exists between the twin goals of profitability and social mission in this increasingly relevant area. Research in this area strive to accomplish a holistic understanding of Social Entrepreneurship at a conceptual level, gaining insights into social entrepreneurs, various stakeholders and the environment that becomes their operational canvas.

Green Supply Chain Management. The body of work focuses on the role of Indian industries in the area of Green Supply Chain. In the wake of businesses increasingly adopting green practices, the research highlights the significant and meaningful benefits of green initiatives when they are spread to their partners- upstream and downstream, rather than in isolation. While many South Asian economies—such as China, Philippines and Thailand—are adopting Green Supply Chain Management, its impact in India has been to a lesser degree.

Microfinance in India. Amidst growing awareness and realization that the world’s poor are excluded from formal financial systems, the research focuses on aspects of microfinance (such as microcredit) and the extent to which it has taken root in the Indian context of financial exclusion.

Role of Corporate Governance on Performance of Indian Companies. Governance is critical wherever a few members are taking decisions on behalf of several others. Using the example of select Indian companies, the focus of research is on the adequacy and quality of corporate governance in shaping the growth and future of emerging economy.

Apart from this, research on Values in Business and the Spirit of Work in Business Organizations in India is also being pursued.

Economics & Humanities

Each department under this faculty, owing to their diversity of subject areas, has a different research focus.

ECONOMICS

Macroeconometric modelling. Research in this area analyzes contemporary issues like tackling inflation, growth prospects in the medium to long term, trade and capital flows, impact of monetary, fiscal and exchange rate policies.

The research work in Financial Econometric modelling includes financial markets, institutions and financial services in relation to the long run growth of the economy.

The analysis of the growth of various sectors of the economy such as agriculture, industry, services and trade, in promoting economic development forms the major body of research under Development Economics.

EDUCATION

Values-based education. A range of methodological and empirical approaches are adopted in this theme with a strong focus on moral and spiritual education, cognitive/psychological frameworks, intervention studies and an emphasis on quantitative analyses and mixed methods research.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE & LITERATURE

Research Projects

The total value of all research grants during the academic year 2014/15 was ₹5.18 crore. Listed below are the research projects during the year.

**MATHEMATICS & COMPUTER SCIENCE**

- **Near-Real-Time Super Resolution of Aerial Video (Visual and IR) Sequences for Defense Applications**
  - DRDO ER & IP, Delhi
- **Diabetic Retinopathy Screening Tool**
  - Zentron Labs, Bangalore
- **Elliptic Curve Cryptography**
  - ISRO-RESPOND
- An ensemble of Image Segmentation algorithms for Medical and Aerial Images
  - DRDO

**PHYSICS**

- **Design and development of optofluidic resonator geometries for biomedical sensing applications**
  - UGC-DAE-CSR
- **Real time motion compensation, image enhancement and feature extraction of moving targets in ISAR**
  - DRDO
- **Research Based Reforms in Physics Instruction: Classroom and Laboratory**
  - VGST, DST, Govt. of Karnataka

**CHEMISTRY**

- **Aerial Regiospecific Functionalisation of Anisotropic Nanoparticles & Implications Towards Generation of Plasmonic Metal Nanoclusters**
  - DST INSPIRE Faculty Award
- **Application of plasmonic technologies and microbes-fortified biosorbents for efficient integrated bioprocessing**
  - DBT
- **Develop Interfacial Chemistry Based Structure-Property Relationship in Nanodielectric Composites for Enhanced Energy Storage Applications**
  - DST-SERB

**BIO SCIENCES**

- **Modulation of TNF Alpha and homocysteine induced inflammation by HDAC and Hsp90 inhibitors**
  - UGC-Start up grant
- **Plant cell, tissue culture and its applications, Immunogenetics**
  - UGC SAP DRS LEVEL II
- **Evaluation and Characterization of ESBL producing pathogenic Gram negative Enterobacteriaceae**
  - DST-SERB

**Interdisciplinary Science Colloquium**

The colloquium provides an opportunity for doctoral research scholars, teaching faculty and visiting experts to share their research experiences with one another. It breaks down barriers of communication and helps merge traditionally distinct scientific disciplines, thereby creating new opportunities for research.

All the science departments (across campuses) of the university participate, using the videoconference facility.

The topics for 2014/15 were:

- Avoiding the Antibiotic Armageddon
- Scalable Nanomanufacturing of Nanocarbon-Based Supercapacitors
Research Scholars Activities & Achievements

MATHEMATICS & COMPUTER SCIENCE
Sri Sai Hareesh A

PHYSICS
Sri Pradyumna Mulpur

Sri Sathya Sai Advanced Centre for Research and Development
The university is establishing an advanced Research Centre to facilitate research facilities for doctoral research scholars, post-doctoral research fellows and research faculty cutting across various disciplines.

The proposed research areas include:
- Molecular Medicine and Integrative Biology
- Designing Functional and Therapeutic Foods at Different Length Scales
- Catalysts and Sensors
- Designing and Engineering Multifunctional Materials at Different Length Scales

The Centre will open in 2016.
Research Publications

Mathematics & Computer Science

JOURNAL PAPERS


CONFERENCE PAPERS


Physics

JOURNAL PAPERS


Pradyumma Mulpur, Aditya Kurdekar, Ramakrishna Podila, A M Rao and Venkata-


CONFERENCE PAPERS


A Vedavathi, Y Munikrishna Reddy and K T


Chemistry

JOURNAL PAPERS


30


CONFERENCE PAPERS


Biosciences

JOURNAL PAPERS


CONFERENCE PAPERS


Prasanth Ghanta and Basavaraju R (24-26 Sep 2014) Efficiency of various extraction techniques employed in obtaining secondary metabolites from the bark of Syzygium cumini (L.) Skeels. *International Conference on Current Status, Opportunities and Challenges in Medicinal Plants and Natural Product Research*, C G Bhakta Institute of Biotechnology, UKA Tarsadia University, Surat, Gujarat.


Home Science

JOURNAL PAPERS


CONFERENCE PAPERS


Management & Commerce

JOURNAL PAPERS


Rahul Kamath and Ruchir Desai (2014) The


**Economics**

**JOURNAL PAPERS**


English Language & Literature

JOURNAL PAPERS


CONFERENCE PAPERS


BOOKS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sub-Departments &amp; Other Languages</th>
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<tr>
<td>JOURNAL PAPERS</td>
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<td>Hindi</td>
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</tbody>
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Kiron Bala Arora (2014) Sathotri Hindi
Upanyason Mein Nari-Vibhinn Drushthikon. Sankalya, (Jul-Sep), 76-78.

Telugu Language & Literature

CONFERENCE PAPERS
History & Indian Culture

Philosophy

M Venkatalakshmi (15-17 Sep 2014) The Role of Women in the Upanishadic Literature. The Role of Women as Reflected in Sanskrit Literature, Karnataka University, Bangalore.


Hindi


BOOKS
Sanskrit

ARTICLES
Sanskrit


There are five special annual events that relate to the devotional, cultural, physical and service dimensions of Sri Sathya Sai Values-based Integral Education.

They are orchestrated to bring out the latent values and good qualities in students and teachers. A lot of planning and effort goes into each of these events.

All students participate in these events in accordance with their individual skills and talents. Teamwork, cooperation, putting others first, honing of extracurricular abilities, building self-confidence and stretching one’s self to perform to a higher degree are some of the many positive benefits of these events.

Summer Course in Indian Culture & Spirituality
13-15 June 2014

The Summer Course in Indian Culture & Spirituality serves as an introduction programme to all students and teachers of Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Learning with an objective to expose students of the university to the rich cultural and spiritual heritage of Bharat. It orients students into Bhagawan Baba’s educational philosophy and gives them deep, first hand insights into how they can directly benefit from this unique institution.

In 2014/15, the event took place from 13 to 15 June 2014 in Prasanthi Nilayam. All university students, teachers and research scholars attended.

The morning sessions consisted of talks by teachers and research scholars of the university and interactive sessions. Typically, they provided insights, concepts and lessons from the ancient Indian scriptures (such as The Ramayana and The Mahabharata) and spiritual personalities and concepts.
Prasanthi Vidwan Mahasabha

27 September - 3 October 2014

Dasara or Navaratri is a ten day festival, usually falling in the month of October, and is celebrated all over India in the worship of the Divine as the Mother principle. Since the early sixties, the festival of Dasara in Prasanthi Nilayam has been closely associated with the Veda Purusha Saptaha Jnana Yagna. This yagnam is a week-long worship conducted in the Divine Presence in the Poornachandra Auditorium in Prasanthi Nilayam each year for the welfare of the whole world. The yagnam commences on the fourth day of Dasara and concludes with the Poornahuti – the final oblation that is offered on Vijayadasami, the tenth day.

The evening programmes during the seven days of the yagnam are held in Sai Kulwant Hall, under the auspices of the ‘Prasanthi Vidwan Mahasabha’, where many speakers—primarily students and functionaries of Bhagawan’s institutions—address the gathering on topics concerning spirituality and philosophy, Bhagawan’s teachings and experiences of devotees.


They also featured short video shows on Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba.

In the afternoons, students and teachers from all four campuses had breakout sessions where they discussed teachings and lessons from Bhagawan Baba’s discourses. For the Summer Course 2014, the themes were From Knowledge to Wisdom and Rise from Animality to Divinity. Key moral messages from the discourses were creatively presented by students of each campus on the final day before the valediction.

The evening sessions on the first two days of the event consisted of music programmes by students of the individual campuses, along with veda chanting and bhajans at the Sai Kulwant Hall.

Perhaps the highlight of the day for students were the post-dinner parayanam sessions. They consisted of two to three talks by alumni or teachers who shared their personal experiences with Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba and the profound impact this had in shaping their lives. The valuable and profound life lessons and the sheer love that Baba had for His students and devotees was vividly communicated through these informal sessions.
Sri Sathya Sai Grama Seva
24 September - 3 October 2014

For over 1300 young university students (and their teachers), nine days of their academic year is spent in the service of almost 300,000 village folk in over 150 villages. This includes distribution of food, clothes and other items, along with bhajans, thus converting the food into prasadam.

In 2014, Sri Sathya Sai Grama Seva took place from 24 September to 3 October. The university students, research scholars and teachers largely managed the entire project—the planning, resourcing, organizing and implementation—from start to finish. This included:

- Planning
- Food Preparation
- Packing
- Logistics
- Serving

Impact of Grama Seva

The Reverend Founder Chancellor, when initiating this project in the year 2000, stressed that the greatest beneficiaries are not the villagers, but the students.

What impact does Grama Seva have on students and villagers?

ON STUDENTS
- It inspires students to live their lives along a higher ideal
- It sensitizes them to the problems of our society, to rural life and the needs of lesser privileged sections of the community
- It trains students to work in teams and groups under constraints of time and resources
- It enables them to appreciate the joy associated with service

ON VILLAGE FOLK
- It kindles hope in their hearts, reinforcing their faith in the truth that God will take care of them
- It inspires them. The prasadam distributed after nagarsankirtan and bhajans is symbolic of Bhagawan Baba's Divine love, compassion and grace, and of His assurance of protection
- It provides them with food and clothes at the physical level, hope and faith at the mental level and bliss at the spiritual level
The 33rd Annual Convocation was held at Sai Kulwant Hall, Prasanthi Nilayam in the Divine Presence on 22 November 2014. Dr. Krishnaswamy Kasturirangan, Former Chairman, Space Commission, Former Secretary, Department of Space, Govt. of India and former Chairman, Indian Space Research Organization was the chief guest.

The programme included speeches by the Vice-Chancellor, the chief guest and the Revered Founder Chancellor (broadcast of a previous Convocation Discourse).

For the academic year 2014/15, a total of 462 graduands received their degrees, 7 students were awarded Ph.D.s and 26 students received Gold Medals for distinction in their respective subject areas.

The evening session commenced with the Sai Krishna Awards for Excellence in Teaching (see page 21 for further information). This was followed by the Annual Convocation Drama, performed by the students of the university.

Titled Antaranga Sai, the drama was based on the character of an SSSIHL alumnus who faced stiff tests on upholding his morality and principles in the wake of wicked men and manipulative circumstances that life threw at him. The drama charted his journey through these trials and tribulations—both in the office and in his personal life—and how he conquered them by focusing on Bhagawan Baba’s love and teachings.

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**Gold Medallists**

- Pinak Panigrahi - M.Tech. in Computer Science
- Nandu T S - M.Tech. in Applied Optics
- Ghajesh S - M.Tech. in Analytical Methods and Chemical Instrumentation
- Shivam Chopra - M.B.A.
- Madireddy Kundan - M.B.A. in Finance
- Rahul Ranjan - Master in Financial Management
- Pedireddla Appala Naidu - M.Sc. in Mathematics
- Sadhu Sai Pavan Prashanth - M.Sc. in Physics
- Aditya Dileep Kurdekar - M.Sc. in Nanoscience & Nanotechnology
- Soham Panda - M.Sc. in Chemistry
- Ramakanta Biswal - M.Sc. in Biosciences
- Tamvada J Manikant - M.A. in Economics
- Sharath Balasubramanian - B.B.A.
- Suraj Acharya - B.C.A.
- Ananth V S - B.Sc. (Hons.) in Mathematics
- Adhitya Sekhar - B.Sc. (Hons.) in Physics
- Sai Satya Narayana V - B.Sc. (Hons.) in Economics
- Ranjith Kumar D R - B.Com. (Hons.) in Commerce
- M Mallikarjuna - B.A. (Hons.) in Economics
- Haripriya V - Master of Education
- Sura Anusha - M.Sc. in Food Technology
- Sri Ram Sai Sudha Pradeepikarani - M.A. in English Language & Literature
- Balabadruni Shantipriya - Bachelor of Education
- Vidya S Menon - B.Sc. (Hons.) in Chemistry
- Anusha Rai - B.Sc. (Hons.) in Biosciences
- Krithika Lakshmi C - Bachelor of Arts

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**Ph.D. Awardees**

- Benoy Anand - Doctor of Philosophy in Physics
  Nonlinear Optical Properties and Ultrafast Dynamics of Nanocarbons and Zno Nanostructures
- Suresh Penamati - Doctor of Philosophy in Physics
  Real-Time Motion Compensation, image Enhancement and Feature Extraction of Moving Targets in ISAR
- Abilash Gangula - Doctor of Philosophy in Chemistry
  Studies on the Catalytic and Sensing Applications of Gold Nanoparticles
- Robin Sharma - Doctor of Philosophy in Biosciences
  Antioxidant Capacity of Endophytic Fungi from Medicinal Plants: Aegle marmelos (L) Corr. Serr. (Bilva) and Ocimum sanctum Linn. (Tulasi)
- S Sai Manohar - Doctor of Philosophy in Management
  A Study of Innovation Culture of Leading Innovative Organizations
- U Suma - Doctor of Philosophy in Commerce
  Top Women Executives in India: An Exploratory and Descriptive Study (Exploring Structure and Agency in the Areas of Work Life Balance and Gender Bias)
The four-day Annual Sports and Cultural Meet is the perfect example of the uniqueness of Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba’s philosophy of values-based integral education practiced at all Sathya Sai educational institutions. It showcases the concept of a modern gurukul—a where students and teachers live and grow together—at its very best.

For a period of three to four weeks, teachers and students ceaselessly work together towards one end— to put up a performance that will please their beloved Mother Sai. Each student is given an opportunity to highlight her or his talent and perform in the Divine presence. For some this may be athletics, for others it is fine arts and for yet others it is some form of physical display or cultural performance.

The Sports Meet is on 11 January. All Sai educational institutions (including the university) put on a grand display of physical prowess at Sri Sathya Sai Hill View Stadium to over 15,000 spectators. The cultural programmes then take place at Sai Kulwant Hall in Prasanthi Nilayam from 12 to 14 January. Each campus of the university performs a drama or musical presentation.

The five-day Sports & Cultural Meet culminates with the Prize Distribution ceremony for sports and cultural events.

**Sports Events**

11 January

Prasanthi Nilayam, Brindavan and Muddenahalli Campuses (combined) presentations:
- Roaring Leos, a Lion Dance
- Wheel Wizards
- Bike stunts
- Dance
- Martial Arts
- Jai Ho, Formations
- Gymnastics
- LED: Light Ends Darkness

Anantapur Campus presentations:
- Bouncing Blues, Fitness drill
- Wonder Wings of Sai, Mass drill

**Cultural Events**

12-14 January

- Musical offering by the Brass Band of Brindavan Campus
- Thus Spake Faith- musi-visual presentation by Anantapur Campus
- Drama entitled Sri Sathya Sai Avatara Rahasya by students of the men’s campuses

**Prize Distribution Ceremony**

14 January

The Prize Distribution Ceremony honours all students who excelled in both sports and cultural activities, not just during the Annual Sports and Cultural Meet, but throughout the academic year.

The event began with a grand procession comprising the university brass band, veda chanting students and a flag-bearing squad. A series of brief talks by four students of different institutions then highlighted the significance of the event for the students and teachers involved. They narrated by various examples and incidences how the event highlights the bond of love between students and Bhagawan Sri Sathya Sai Baba.

Next, the Founder Chancellor’s trophies were awarded to all the Sai educational institutions.

Following this, the list of winners was presented to Bhagawan Baba; and finally, the championship trophies were awarded. Given below are the champions for the academic year 2014/15.

**Athletics Champions**

- Palla Pushpavathi
  Postgraduate, Anantapur Campus
- Sofia Lama
  Undergraduate, Anantapur Campus
- Gaurav D Verma
  Postgraduate, Prasanthi Nilayam Campus
- Amarendra Pratap Biswal
  Undergraduate, Prasanthi Nilayam Campus
- Praveen Kumar Reddy G
  Brindavan Campus
- Santhosh Basappa Nagouda
  Muddenahalli Campus

**Cultural Champions**

- Vandana Ramachandran
  Postgraduate, Anantapur Campus
- Priya Gurumoorthy
  Undergraduate, Anantapur Campus
- Balaram Khamari
  Postgraduate, Prasanthi Nilayam Campus
- Subrath Lama
  Undergraduate, Prasanthi Nilayam Campus
- Anirud Chathanath
  Brindavan Campus
- Anvit Manohar Hegde
  Muddenahalli Campus

**Fine Arts Champions**

- Annapurna Rai
  Postgraduate, Anantapur Campus
- M Akshmala
  Undergraduate, Anantapur Campus
Other Integral Education Activities

As highlighted in the diagram on page 13, all students spend 60% of their time at university on intellectual activities (primarily on their studies). The rest of the 40% of time is spent almost equally on activities related to the Integral Education dimensions of Devotional, Cultural, Physical and Service. These are highlighted below.

Devotional Dimension

- Bhajans (Sankirtan)
- Vedic chants and stotrams
- Meditation & Silent sitting
- Suprabhatam (prayer at dawn)
- Assembly (college prayer)
- Brahmarpanam (food prayer)
- Daily Kshama Prarthana (night prayer)

The activities of the devotional dimension enable a student to connect to his/her Divine inner Self. This inner connection opens the heart and brings forth the feeling of love, compassion and empathy for fellow human beings.

Cultural Dimension

- Celebration of festivals: Eid-al-Fitr, Independence Day, Sri Krishna Janamashtami (cow procession), Ganesh Chaturthi, Ganesh Immersion, Christmas Ugadi, Sri Ramanavami, etc.
- Brass Band
- Nadaswaram & Panchavadyam ensemble
- Annual Sports & Cultural Meet
- Performing Arts: Music programmes, Drama & Dance
- Fine Arts: Rangoli, Card making, Photography, Altar making
- Public Speaking
- Debates and Elocution

From the performing arts to public speaking to the fine arts, the cultural dimension is designed to give students wide opportunities to find an avenue to their individual artistic expression.

The university makes every effort to provide the best possible resources—both material and human—so that students excel at their chosen activity.

Festivals of major world religions are celebrated, reinforcing the unity among all faiths. Every student is involved in one way or another in the celebration of these festivals.

Physical Dimension

- Sports
- Games
- Jogging
- Exercises and Yogasanas
- Annual Sports & Cultural Meet

Sports and games are a part of the daily routine of all students. From yoga classes to fitness training, from team sports to individual sports, students are encouraged to overcome their limitations and excel in these activities.

The university has excellent sports facilities.

Service Dimension

- Self-Reliance departments: Electricals, Plumbing (water supply), Audiovisual, General store, Dispensary Dietary services, Hostel mess, Arts & Crafts, costumes & props, etc.
- Community living
- Social Work
- Voluntary work
- Grama Seva (Annual Village Service)
- Prasadam Distribution

The philosophy of service at SSSIHL is based on the concept that divinity pervades all of humanity, and hence when you serve others, you are serving the Divine. Students learn to serve without expecting anything in return, other than the deep inner satisfaction of serving others.

The compulsory residential system, where students live in dormitory-styled accommodation with other students from totally different backgrounds (for a minimum of two years and up to five or more years), provides an excellent foundation for the service dimension.

Intellectual Dimension

Apart from academics and research, the activities in this dimension include:

Awareness Courses

These mandatory courses are designed to cultivate a broad view of the human condition in students. The course content (e.g. the Unity of Religions and Faiths, Study of the Indian Epics, etc.) helps trigger self-reflection and enquiry and sensitises students to the concerns of society, and gets them to think about practical solutions to these problems.

Thursday Moral Class

At each campus, Thursday mornings begin with an hour of inspiring and ennobling talks by speakers focusing on their personal spiritual experiences, messages from sacred scriptures and other elevated and socially relevant themes. It is also used to highlight students’ talents in music, dramatics, elocution, debates, quizzes, etc.

In 2014/15, topics included: Sai’s Educare, Role of women in Swacha Bharat, WATCH, Where is Swami?, Conserve Water, Save the Future, etc.

Prayer Talks

Every morning before classes commence at the college, all students and teachers gather for the morning assembly. Prayers/veda chanting/ bhajans and a few minutes of silent sitting are sometimes followed by a talk by students, faculty members or invited guests on topics related to morals and values. In 2014/15, topics included: Omnipresence of God, Experience with Sai, Purity of Heart, Swami as a Friend, Bhakti, Wish-fulfiller and Saviour, How Prayer and Fear are Interconnected, Faith and Belief, Power of Prayer, Concentration, Redefining Boundaries, Our Real Assets, Life and Football, Guru, Lessons Learnt at the Lotus Feet, etc.
Community Service

On their own volition, students and teachers of the university work with local communities around the campuses. Many of these service activities are conceived and inspired by students themselves. They are a reflection of the impact of the unique education they receive here. Examples of these from 2014/15 include:

Sai Bandhan  
*Brindavan Campus, April-May 2015*

The Sai Bandhan program was a collaboration between students of Brindavan Campus, SSSIHL and Sri Sathya Sai Institute of Higher Medical Sciences (SSSIHMS), Whitefield, Bangalore.

It was a domiciliary outreach program where students set out to meet patients who had been previously treated at SSSIHMS, Whitefield. The objective was to assure the patients and their families of Sai’s continued concern for their well-being and get feedback about their experience at SSSIHMS.

The program spanned 63 districts in 19 states of India, touching the lives of 250–odd patients. It involved 123 students who voluntarily chose to spend their summer vacation time in this selfless manner. The patients visited belonged to different sections of society. They were of diverse caste, creed, religion, age groups and economic strata.

All patient information was provided by SSSIHMS and the logistical support to meet them was extended by members of Sri Sathya Sai Seva organisation in the state concerned.

Students often had to travel to remote corners of their districts or neighbouring districts to meet patients. A few even travelled out of state to reach out to patients. Sometimes, they had to trace patients who had migrated to other places to pursue their studies or vocations after the pause button pressed by the disease had been released.

The hard work was handsomely rewarded however by seeing the patients supremely happy, in good health and with renewed hope in life.

**Patient Response**

The response from patients and their relatives was overwhelming. The very mention of Bhagawan Baba’s name brought tears of joy to their eyes. Their eyes lit up when they came to know that Baba’s students themselves had come to enquire about their welfare. They were deeply grateful to Him (and the doctors, nurses, technicians and Seva dals at the hospital) for stepping in and saving them from a hopeless future when economic considerations had put the treatment out of their reach.

Their outlook had changed since and they have become positive contributors to the welfare of the same society from which they were once abandoned. They share the news of the existence of this hospital with all those in need. Indeed they have turned into self-appointed brand ambassadors.

From the students perspective, this trip has been most beneficial and enriching. Having set out with the idea of enquiring about the welfare of the patients, they returned with the feeling that they too are beneficiaries of this program. It was a humbling experience to see the impact of Swami’s medicare project on the lives of poor people. Being the carriers of Sai’s love, they returned with a renewed sense of responsibility to equip themselves with knowledge to serve their fellow men and put the unique education they receive in the portals of the Institute to best use.

Kodakarai Village Service  
*Brindavan Campus, 16-17 April 2015*

Seventy students and seven teachers held a service camp at Kodakarai village, tucked away deep into the forest, ninety kilometres from the campus, in April 2015.

The village head and other elders were delighted to see university students from the city chanting the vedas and singing bhajans and enthusiastically joined the nagarasan-keertan.

The village school needed a coat of paint and a group of enthusiastic students...
worked tirelessly to paint the interior and exterior of the school.

Another group had prepared *Sai Deep*, a device using a soda bottle and chlorinated water sealed in it to refract sunlight into the dark rooms of the tiled houses of the villagers. These solar water bulbs can transmit enough light as a 40- to 60-watt incandescent bulb to the interior of village homes and can last up to five years.

Another set of students engaged the village children in games and activities such as a drawing competition and teaching them stotrams, bhajans and lessons in hygiene.

The remaining students plunged into cutting vegetables and rolling *chapatis* for women folk, all while singing bhajans.

When the students were getting into the vehicles to leave for Brindavan, the innocent children came and asked if they really had to go so soon!

**Old Age Home Visit**

*Muddenahalli Campus, 14 April 2015*

The final year undergraduate students of the campus, accompanied by staff members, paid a visit to an old age home, Sri Sai Dwarakamayee Vriddhashrama, at Sultanpet, Nandi village, near Muddenahalli, on 14 April, 2015.

Following a prayer session at the Shirdi Sai Mandir in the village, veda chanting and bhajan singing, prepared food was served as *prasadam* to the residents as a ‘naivedyam’ offering. For those who were immobile, food was served at their bedside.

The elders were then personally handed over a small toiletry kit each. This was followed by a brief speech in Kannada by one of the students, expressing (on behalf of his batch) their heartfelt gratitude and joy of being in their company.

The students interacted with all the residents, enquired about their well being and sought their blessings. They were very touched and moved by the life stories of the seniors living there. They realized the importance of the vedic dictum ‘Mathru devo bhava, pitru devo bhava (Mother is God, father is God)’.

Before leaving, mattresses and plastic buckets were given away for use at the old age home.

**Leper Colony Adoption**

*Anantapur Campus, 1986 to date*

Aptly named Love Stream, the project has helped transform the lives of twenty-five socially marginalized families through dedicated love and care.

The colony that consisted of 10-12 huts in 1986 now has twenty neat little houses. The creatively raised capital has funded water pumps, stationery items, food supplies and even fifty trees so that they can sell their own fruits and earn an income. As a result, almost every family now has its own bank account.

Practicing human values, bhajan singing, educating the inhabitants in various ways—these are some of the ways that the warden and students have taken time out to help the lepers with.

The long-term objective is to make the families as self-sufficient as possible.

**Narayana Seva**

*Anantapur Campus, every Semester*

The campus undertakes Narayana seva every semester in a slum, a little distance from the campus. The seva consists of the distribution of 250-270 packets of cooked rice to the slum dwellers.
Dear Students!

Be like the sun which never wavers from the crescent but is fixed in steady faith. When the sun is over your head, there will be no shadow; so too when faith is already in your heart, it should not cast any shadow of doubt.

Do not talk ill of others; talk only of the good in them; all are good; if you see bad in them, it is because there is bad in you; if you do not like someone, do not mix with him.

Grace in the sun light which will ripen the fruits; radha in the nap which rises from earth. Both are needed by the tree in order that it may yield fruit.

With Blessings,

[Signature]
The end of knowledge is wisdom
SRI SATHYA SAI BABA