



A TEMPLE OF LEARNING...

“What sculpture is to a piece of marble, so is education to the soul.”

Srirangam, a semi urban place has charms that are manifold. Beyond its spiritual and historical claims it offers a blend of tradition and modernity. This citadel of education situated at the banks of the river Cauvery is the brainchild of **His Holiness Srirangam Srimad Andavan Swamigal** who strongly believes in imparting education that has its strong foundation in inculcation of values. Established in 1996 amidst sylvan surroundings, Srimad Andavan Arts and Science College has set a very clear **vision “To build a thriving learning culture, responsive to the needs of the community through value based knowledge transfer”**. It is an offspring of Srirangam Srimad Andavan Ashram, which has a sublime tradition & spiritual heritage of more than three centuries. **Sri Ranganatha Paduka Vidyalaya Trust** comprising a group of eminent educationalists and industrialists as trustees manages the college very efficiently.

Srimad Andavan Arts and Science College is a self financing college affiliated to Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli. It was recognized by University Grants Commission under 2f & 12B scheme in 2003. The Managing Trust has been recognized as a Scientific and

Industrial Research Organisation by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, New Delhi, in 2004. College is situated at Tiruvanai Koil, Tiruchirappalli in an area of 4.96 acres.

This renowned institution has distinguished itself by preserving its interest in the invaluable treasures of ancient classical knowledge of Ayurvedha and simultaneously forging ahead with the times to make its presence in the global arena by synergizing healthy practices with institutional management.

In line with the mission and goals, the college maintains its own traditions to match its governing values. At the same time the institution has adopted and accepted new practices like strategic planning, team work, decision making and computerization to ensure that the system is fit to face the new and emerging challenges.

The management has been meticulous not only in creating the required infrastructure facilities but also in maintaining and enhancing them over the years.

Infrastructure of the college has been expanded to match the requirements of curriculum, pedagogy, research, extension and student related services of the college. From the inception nearly Rs. 17 Crores has been spent on the creation of infrastructure in the campus.

This institution has now carved a niche for itself among the self-financing institutions and a congenial atmosphere is created by the Management for amelioration of academic standards by involving the students and the staff in various orientation programmes, seminars, symposia etc.,

The laurels won by the students in academic and co-curricular activities bear testimony to the sustained efforts of the management, the members of the faculty and the students in ensuring a holistic development. Started with a strength of 77 students, the college has now more than 1600 students both in the UG, PG and research programmes.

Strongly motivated and guided by our committed staff members, students of our college epitomize themselves as models par excellence with their profound academic performance. Every year we have academically brilliant students carving a niche for themselves among the list of university rank holders. The college has produced **185 University Rank holders** since its inception and this year we are proud to acclaim that **19** students have secured University Ranks. Being an affiliated institution, the college has no freedom to design or develop own syllabi. However we interleave practical training, field work, computer awareness, ICT exposure, community orientation, etc. in our teaching methods.

We practice collecting feedbacks systematically from the students, teachers and employers for bringing changes in the curriculum through representation to the University. Faculty selection is based on a transparent procedure. College adopts a unique method called **“STUDENT ADOPTION PROGRAMME”** to categorize the students and extend the support as per their backgrounds and needs.

College has designed a continuous career enhancement programme for 3 years for UG students with a sharp focus on language skills and soft skills.

College has made sustained and continuous efforts to bring innovations in teaching – learning methodology. In fact, it has shifted the focus from teacher-centered pedagogy to learner-centered pedagogy.

Web-based education has created a new medium of *“Anytime, Anywhere”* learning in hyperspace creating additional challenges and opportunities for teachers and learners. The power pointing of knowledge has made education accessible and interactive. The college provides moderate ICTs and other technological power tools for the use of teachers and learners.

Encouragement given by the management in improving the teacher quality is evidenced by the incentives provided to faculty members who qualify for higher degrees and to attend academic activities such as conferences/seminars and reducing work load and granting of leave and “on other duty” to complete M.Phil/Ph.D and sanctioning incentives when they progress towards higher degrees.

Computer facilities and internet facilities in all the departments raise the level of competency of teachers in the use of ICT in teaching-learning which is evidenced by the national seminar on digitalized information exchange and awareness on video conferencing and e-learning. The use of computers and the internet by the students are encouraged by allowing them to utilize the facility free of cost.

In addition to the mandatory self appraisal, the college collects appraisal of teachers from students and evaluation through 360° appraisal regularly and identify areas of improvement.

Herbal Research is a significant activity in the College. Department of Life Sciences have witnessed a phenomenal growth since 2002 getting themselves upgraded into PG and research departments.

The Management works towards elevating these departments as a Centre of Excellence in Life Sciences. These departments focus their attention on combining technology with the present day needs and are working on extraction and validation of herbal products. To make the student conversant in this area Post Graduate Diploma in Herbal technology is offered as a concurrent course.

Currently ten of our staff members are engaged actively in herbal research under the guidance of Dean, Life Sciences. College has two ongoing major Rural Research Project sanctioned by DBT, New Delhi with an outlay of Rs.8.67 Lakhs and Rs.21.00 Lakhs targeting farmers and self help group members.

College conducts a national level seminar **“HERBAL FOCUS”** every year inviting eminent scientists with the view of creating awareness on the importance of Medicinal Herbs , Herbal products to the farmers and self help group members.

A Consultancy Cell has been set up to extend the consultancy services to farmers, self help group members and outside organizations on Agro techniques.

College has signed MoUs with 18 organizations including Industries and Institutions. This linkage programmes create an opportunity for staff and students to have a hands-on experience in industry projects.

The management encourages research in the college by providing seed money for pilot research projects, extending laboratory facilities, computer facilities to the research scholars, by motivating staff members to apply for projects. They encourage faculty to participate in National / International seminars, to present papers, by adjusting time to research scholars to enable them to take up research along with teaching.

They waive research fee for the part time research scholars. The college also provides financial assistance to the departments for the conduct of conferences/workshops/seminars by way of allocating budget for the promotion of research. Well equipped laboratories, instrumentation centre, research section in the library are the facilities available in the college.

A faculty in the Tamil department guides two part-time teachers working in sister institutions and a faculty of the Sanskrit department guides two of his colleagues for doctoral degree.

At college level having recognized research guides is an asset and helps the college to become a true teaching and research organization. The establishment of a corpus fund to assist research scholars by providing support for fee remission in connection with research activities is a positive step in encouraging research.

Quality and relevance of services are highly enhanced by the community projects organized through Social Work department in collaboration with other government and non-government agencies. This is an ambitious project for the students to become sensitive to the needs of the society.

The unique outreach program of the college is “**Village Adoption Programme**” through which students use their knowledge, skills and abilities to benefit the community in a village Panayapuram in the neighborhood of the College.

Other avenues for extension activities encouraged by the College are NSS, YRC, Exnora Club and Rotaract, Blood Donor Club. The activities of these organizations include a number of awareness programs, rallies, relief work, total sanitation programs, blood donation, health camps, literacy and self-employment programmes and rural education programmes.

Student-friendly libraries in the campus provide access to web and e-learning resources. In addition, computer & BPO laboratories and internet hub facilities provide IT support for student learning process.

Department of Life Sciences has enriched exquisite laboratory equipments for UG, PG and Research. The department of Computer Science, BPO and Physics laboratories are furnished with state-of-the art systems and equipments.

General facilities available in the campus include a canteen, parking space, a large auditorium, a conference hall, a ladies rest room and photo copying facility. As an emergency measure, the college has a generator. The central addressing system is useful for conducting prayer and making announcements. In addition we have intercom networking facility too, to connect various wings and departments. The college has two separate hostels for boys and girls.

College campus and the hostels have immediate medical accessibility. Hence, there are no residential/visiting doctors. But the institution maintains informal tie-up arrangements with near-by hospitals to cater to the help services when needed.

Facilities for different sports events are available and students are encouraged to take up indoor/outdoor games. There are provisions for Basket Ball Court, Table Tennis and Shuttle and Kabaddi Court and Cricket net practice, including a Volley Ball Court

Management grants funds for maintaining the infrastructure. It makes annual contribution through budget allocations to each department based on the requirements every year. Heavy investments are also made to strengthen course inputs. For instance, a Business Process Outsourcing lab has been established at the cost of twenty lakhs rupees to give exposure to the learners in acquiring linguistic skills. To buttress the resources the college also takes efforts to get grants from other source.

Student support services include student welfare schemes like Student and Staff Group Life Insurance scheme, Medical support scheme, Hayagreeva Book bank, Management

Scholarships, Fee Concession for meritorious students, help to secure government scholarships, encouraging students with creativity with cashawards, Concurrent Certificate courses, Continuous career enhancement programme, Personality development programmes, Diploma in BPO, Language Laboratory, Technology Incubation Center, Linkages, Free Internet Access, College Magazine and Departmental News letters, and Career Guidance and Placement cell and in house training facilities in industry projects & industries, Mentoring system , Alumni meet, Parents' meet etc...

The college has to its credit a number of best practices as detailed below:

Effective functioning of the Quality Assurance Cell which has created a quality consciousness among the college community. QAC has developed a tool to measure Teacher Quality, Teacher Performance and Departmental Performance. Many indices are developed by QAC to assess the performance of the institution in all parameters of quality.

College has all along been striving to give 'preferential option' to the poor students by giving them special consideration during admissions and by providing scholarships and financial assistance. Students are streamed into three categories soon after the admissions in order to identify slow learners, average learners and advanced learners.

Remedial coaching classes and computer literacy programmes are provided outside the class hours free of cost for slow learners and students coming from disadvantaged communities.

Academic and personal counseling for the students are ably carried out through the mentoring system.(SAP)

A parents' meet is organized every year to focus their attention on the performance, progress and regularity/irregularity of their wards.

Adherence to value-centric approaches for imparting curriculum in the best interest of stakeholders is a unique feature. Academic flexibility and interdisciplinary focus is enhanced through introduction of Choice Based Credit System and initiation of new courses.

Research with prioritized areas of focus like herbal sciences, development of policy framework for consultancy and scope for generation of finances and integration of extension activities are other measures initiated by the college.

Establishment of Internal Quality Assurance Cell by selecting members from academic community to scrutinize the academic and administrative activities of the college and give feedback for improvement.

Establishment of Scientific and Research Advisory committee comprising stalwarts in the field of Biosciences – this committee meets once in a year, interacts with life sciences department members and evaluates their research work and gives invaluable suggestions for future work.

Establishment of the language lab, Audio-Visual room, augmentation of laboratories, automation of the library, office and initiation of connectivity to the departments, functioning of student counseling center and placement cell speaks about quality of the institution.

Establishment and effective functioning of student counseling center and placement cell helps to bring a professional touch to education. Campus recruitment of students to focus on marketability of courses is another measure undertaken by the college.

