



MADRAS SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

(An Autonomous Institution Affiliated to the University of Madras)

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Principal

7.1.8. Describe the Institutional efforts/initiatives in providing an inclusive environment i.e., tolerance and harmony towards cultural, regional, linguistic, communal socioeconomic and other diversities (within 500 words).

- MSSW attracts students from all over India, providing equal opportunities to young men, Women, Transgender, **differently abled** and marginalized sections of the student population.
- The **curricula** offered in the college Institution efforts in providing an inclusive environment. Some of these courses include:
 - Course on Women and Development, Social Work with families and Senior citizens, Disaster Management & Environmental Social work, social work profession, Social Work with individuals, Dalit and Tribal Empowerment
 - Psychology papers offer greater understanding of gender as a social construct
 - Social Entrepreneurship programme grounded on addressing both social and environmental problems through innovative business solutions and sustainable development
- MSSW celebrates **Community Day** with a marginalized social group every year. Since 2016, MSSW has engaged with communities such as **bonded labours** from **Irular community, Gypsy community, folk artists** and **rag pickers** of **Kodungaiyur** community providing them with lunch and household items
- **Equal Opportunity Cell (EOC)** of MSSW creates equal opportunity for students belonging to marginalized sections including those from SC/ ST and OBCs, minority communities, etc.
- **Community Outreach**
 - During Chennai floods, the College functioned as an organized flood relief centre and distributed relief material worth more than 2.5 crore rupees to the most needy and marginalized communities.
 - The College committed 20 students in collaboration with TATA Relief Committee, to provide psychosocial support
 - In collaboration with SEEDS, an international organization, MSSW provided essential items to 8500 families.
- **Diversity** is celebrated in MSSW
 - **International Day of Older Persons** on 1st October 2015 under the theme: Social Integration of Senior Citizens: Youth Participation – A way forward”
 - One of the research studies of the institution focused on ‘Survey on Diagnosis of Silicosis among **Quarry Workers** in Kancheepuram District’ during AY 2016-'17
 - MSSW students’ Forum organised a workshop on ‘Gender and Space’ involving three different personalities from three different spaces –A **transgender**, a **women entrepreneur**, and a **male media personality** on 8th March 2019.
 - Collaborated with Vision Age India to celebrate International Day of **Elderly Persons Day** on 26th September 2017.
 - MSSW has given space for the **transgender community** to run a shop inside the campus to help them with **livelihood**. They sell eatables to the public and to students.

- MSSW's Eco-Club functions as a **society for environmental education** through action to promote ecological sensitivity and sustainable living practices.
- **Sustainable Development Goals on campus**
 - National conference on Sustainable Development Goals focusing the importance of SDGs on 23rd March 2017
 - Seminar on '**Dalit and Tribal Empowerment: The Reality Today**' for students to get insights about Dalits and Tribal Rights 4th September 2018.
 - The **Equal Opportunity Centre** of MSSW organized a talk on CAA and NRC that discussed various issues connected with citizenship rights from legal perspective and role of media on 20th December 2019
- Awareness session on Indigenous culture in India and the impact of modernisation was organised for postgraduate students in 14th March 2017 to **promote indigenous communities and culture**

[499 words]