

5.6

Women Progress Measures

5.6.6 Women mentoring schemes

MRIIRS Link to SDG 5:

<https://mriirs.edu.in/sdg05-gender-equality/>

As a premium educational institution in Haryana, MRIIRS lays emphasis on **character-building of future citizens and professionals** of India. This principle mandates equal opportunity, inclusivity, equity and empowerment of all applicants and students in all educational institutions. **Gender equality is therefore an 'approach' that is adopted in the policies, practices, programs, and protocols of our university.** This approach is not only in synch with the UN' Sustainable Development agenda, it has led to the increase in access to higher education among girls and women of Haryana and NCR, especially those from semi-urban areas nearby. MRIIRS provides equal opportunity to all to participate and shine in all aspects of academic programs, curricula, student's admission procedure, working committees, entrepreneurial ventures, cultural and sports events held at the university. Be it in leadership positions, or in public participation, the numbers of girls and women students in Manav Rachna has increased steadily over the years and many have excelled in education and are working in various industries. The principle of equity promotes equal opportunity to all genders.

Women mentoring schemes

To encourage women, especially those who are coming out to work or study for the first time, the university encourages interactions within gendered groups to promote support and peer learning. At MRIIRS there is a professional mentor body - **Maitri** – that operates as an informal group of women employees – that congregates regularly and provides support and networking opportunities among women.

Another platform is provided by the **Gender Sensitizing Cell**, that regularly holds discussions and lectures for awareness on gender issues and policies. It is a well accepted fact that the social order of our society is patriarchal in nature. Despite education and progress made after the independence, the patriarchal value system prevails in every aspect of life. In order to create awareness, and mainstream gender equality, the university promotes communication, awareness, opportunities, practices and philosophies that creates equality and equity of genders a priority. Right from the

beginning of the academic session, as a part of the orientation program, the new students are made aware of the various gender sensitization programs and encouraged to participate in promoting gender inclusivity and equality. At the department level, there are courses offered on gender, regular discussions, lectures, programs and activities that facilitate the gender awareness and inclusivity. Annually the celebration of International Women's Day in March, the Queer month (June) is a regular fixed feature of the university.

- In 2019, the university conducted a 45 Day Women Entrepreneurship Development program (EDP).
- In 2020, on women's day an International film festival '*Prakriti*' was organised where foreign universities from Muscat, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka also participated.
- In 2021, the Women's Day weekend was celebrated with Panel Discussions, student's activity based programs on the issue and an awareness rally.
- In 2022, on the women's day, women academicians, doctors and civil society leaders gathered to motivate everyone to become a part of the movement. The chief guest for the program was NCW- Haryana Chairperson herself!

As a part of its academic culture, ongoing programs, discussions, talks and workshops on Women's issues and opportunities such as Entrepreneurship, Women in Sports, Women in Media, etc. are organised at department as well as central level, throughout the year..

Evidence

Sr.No.	Description	Links
1.	Maitri Event	http://mriirs.edu.in/maitri.pdf
2.	Counselling Cell	http://mriirs.edu.in/NAAC/C7/7.1.1/7.1.1 Counselling Cell.pdf