



# VIT®

Vellore Institute of Technology  
(Deemed to be University under section 3 of UGC Act, 1956)

## SDG-5 Annual Report 2019-20

# 5 GENDER EQUALITY



Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls



Vellore Institute of Technology

Vellore – 632014  
Tamil Nadu, India  
[www.vit.ac.in](http://www.vit.ac.in)



## Report of VIT-Vellore Campus

VIT is renowned for its **no discrimination policies** especially when it comes to students admissions, faculty and staff recruitments and is a safe haven for career development of every individual youth and women. Women occupying posts of Deans, Directors, Professors and Staffs in Schools and Centres and their contribution to academics and research can be observed through the home website ([vit.ac.in](http://vit.ac.in)). Over 36,000 students, with nearly one-third of them women are being educated at VIT.



Signing of MoU between **Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT)** and **Organization for Rare Diseases (ORDI)** on **14th March, 2020**

Support the Advancement of Rural Students Scheme (**STARS**: <https://vit.ac.in/stars-support-advancement-rural-students-0>) aims at enhancing the rural students' quality of life. A rural Government Higher Secondary School graduated **male and a female student** who are academically brilliant and financially disadvantaged are selected from varied districts of Tamil Nadu and sponsored under the STARS scheme with 100% fee waiver for their academic and hostel facilities inclusive of basic medical expenses.

Universal Higher Education Trust (**UHET**) (<https://www.uhetindia.org/>) promoted by VIT aims towards higher education of underprivileged students through financial assistance, career guidance, advocacy, networking, educational outreach and skill development. More than **4500 girl students** have benefitted from the activities of the trust and they also focus on first generation graduation. Centre for Sustainable Rural Development & Research Studies (**CSRD & RS**: <https://vit.ac.in/about/community-outreach>) works towards improving the quality of life of

people and implements sustainable practices to improve their economic well-being through skill development and education leading to empowerment of women and youth.



Events like **International Women's day** and gender sensitization programs are conducted every year. Gender Equity programs organized by the institution during the year 2019-20 include Debate on Women's Equality, Fact or Fiction, Women on wings, Women equality day, Women Rules, Eureka-Rural-women day, Strategies for upliftment of rural women, Women on Wings 2.0, Seminar on women's health and many more.

### **Women Achiever Awards for Sponsored Research Excellence: 2019-20**



## Welfare Measures

Students are future leaders and need to be provided with opportunities to grow and express their thoughts freely. To make sure that every child is looked after, each faculty as a **Proctor** mentors around 20 students. Details on periodical newsletters, clubs, chapters and events can be glimpsed through our website (<https://vit.ac.in/campuslife/studentwelfare>).

The primary aim of the Department of the Student Welfare is to make every student in VIT stay safe and we work hard towards this goal by joining hands with the **Counselling Division**. VIT offers confidential and professional one to one counselling and psychological support for its Students, Staff and Members of Faculty through male and female counselors. Grievances, if any, can be brought to the notice of General Grievance Redressal Committee for necessary action and redressal. Committee for **prevention of discrimination and grievance redressal, anti-ragging, institutional student grievance redressal and internal complaints** are in place. VIT maintains a **ragging free** campus (<https://vit.ac.in/anti-ragging-committee>).

First aid centres at hostels, and a **Health centre** (<https://vit.ac.in/campuslife/healthservices>) inside the campus functions 24x7 for the welfare of all VIT members, with the availability of **lady doctor**. **Extended learning** facility (<https://vit.ac.in/capability-enhancement-schemes>) for students at VIT helps the students to prepare for higher studies in India and abroad. Courses offered include GATE, GRE, GMAT, CAT, IAS, UPSC, IELTS and TOFEL.

Students are encouraged to go to the **library** till 12 midnight to strengthen their academics. Shuttle bus services are made available once in 30 mins from the ladies hostel gates to the library to facilitate movement. Students can avail the **early and late hour safe transport escort facility** until the railway station and bus stand to ensure safe travel during late hours. A **day care centre** to cater to the needs of young kids of faculty and staff members is in place. Male guards, female guards, CCTV surveillance, biometric and turn style devices at gates ensure the **safety and security** of all inside the campus 24x7.

VIT provides state of the art facilities with many play grounds, stadium, indoor courts as well as a number of centres for **physical education & sporting** activities that help students stay as fit as a fiddle and to develop a spirit of sportsmanship. In order to encourage the students in sports activities the Department of Physical Education conducts Intramural tournament in various sports and games for Men and Women separately (<https://vit.ac.in/campuslife/sports>). It conducts selection trials to raise University teams in

various disciplines for Inter University and other tournaments and offers scholarships and monetary awards.

Exclusive **placement drives** for female students by inviting companies like IBM, Capgemini, Vestas-Preference, CGI-Thought works, Amazon, Cisco, Ingersoll Rand, Saint-Gobain and Hero Motors are organised.

### **Hostels at VIT**

VIT hostels (<https://vit.ac.in/campuslife/hostels>) stand by its caption “**Home away from Home**” and facilitate a comfortable, safe, inclusive and secure living. The environment at hostel provides opportunities to students to form lasting friendships and ease the transition from home to the Institute. Living on campus provides students with opportunities to connect with a diverse population of people, develop stronger interpersonal and communication skills, engage in campus leadership, organizations, activities and establish relationships. Hostel administrative team is always available to support the students from different backgrounds.

Students enter VIT with loads of dreams and promises towards their academic career to fulfil. Hostels play a significant role in acclimatizing freshers to an entirely new environment as they learn to live away from parents, make new friends, expand their horizon of activities and learn by experience to take self-decisions. The hostel infrastructure and aesthetic environment serves as a breeding ground for students to focus on their academics, showcase their creative talents and shape their personality.

### **Facilities specific to women at Ladies Hostel**

VIT ladies hostel is one among the best in the country offering services including well equipped air conditioned gymnasium, indoor and outdoor sports facilities (Basket Ball, Table Tennis, Squash, Badminton, Swimming etc.), study dormitories, first aid centre, swimming pool, music classes, driving classes, mechanized laundry, pharmacy, Wi-Fi, general store, food outlets, photocopy facility and a beauty salon within the hostel premises. Students are encouraged to enroll in driving (lady trainer available), music, dance and swimming classes to make proper use of their free time and also to keep fit by utilizing the gymnasium and sports facilities available in the Ladies Hostel.

Various events starting from Self-defence workshop, lectures and demos on life skills, fresher's party to sports and celebrations are conducted throughout the year to make the students stay at hostels a memorable one. Events organized during the academic years, are presented every year in the form of newsletters (Newsletter, 2019-20: <https://vit.ac.in/files/lh-newsletter/index.html>). Highlights of few events conducted are narrated below.

**Self Defense Workshop** - On the 11th of August, 2019, 'Self defense workshop' for the seventh consecutive year was arranged for more than 700 freshers as like every year to serve as an eye-opener. Instructors from Krav Maga, (military self-defense system developed by Israel) Chennai, served as resource persons and taught the students on how to handle adverse situations and combat harassment.



**Zumba** - “Platinie’s Dance club”, Vellore was invited to give a preliminary session on Zumba, a famous exercise fitness regime on the 19<sup>th</sup> of September, 2019. The dance club also periodically trains faculty, staff and students at VIT.



**Basic Life Support (BLS) skills** - Workshop organized on the 27<sup>th</sup> of November, 2019. Dr. G. Priya, Associate Professor, Emergency Medicine, CMC, Vellore and Prof. T.S. Ravikumar, former Head, Emergency Nursing, CMC, Vellore served as resource persons.



**Handling Fire and Fire Extinguishers** – Workshop was conducted by “VIT Emergency Response Team” on the 12<sup>th</sup> of December, 2019.





**Kasam Children's Home** – A visit to the home for ladies hostel students was organised on the 29<sup>th</sup> of October, 2019. Such visits can create a spark in the minds of students which may help serve in bringing light in the lives of the under privileged in future.



**Holi** - The festival of spring, colors, love and forgiveness is the most enjoyable event at hostels and is celebrated with colours, DJ and yummy treats. This year's Holi was celebrated on the 10<sup>th</sup> of March, 2020.



**Fests at VIT** (<https://vit.ac.in/campuslife/fests>)

We at VIT believe that education isn't confined to academic excellence, but extends to the overall development of a student. To facilitate this, VIT conducts various events and workshops. Riviera, the annual International Sports and Cultural Fest, is one of the major events that provides students a stage to showcase and shape their talent in various technical and managerial areas. GraVITas an annual technological and design carnival provides a platform to all individuals to showcase their skills and improve their innovation skills in the fields of technology.

**Crosscutting issues** - Institution integrates crosscutting issues relevant to professional ethics, gender, human values, environment and sustainability into the Curriculum. Few examples of efforts taken towards crosscutting by the schools through its courses are shown below.

Name of the Course	Crosscutting Activity
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BAG1023, Fundamentals of Agricultural Extension Education	Guest lecture focused on the importance of agricultural extension towards the development of rural society. Improving rural population through improved technology in agriculture and allied activities. The session also covered topics related to adoption of new techniques in various sectors of agriculture like crop production, livestock, horticulture, and sericulture.
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BAG1026, Rural Sociology and Educational Psychology	A training program conducted on “one cent garden for one family” mainly for the <b>women folks</b> . Development of sustainable vegetable home garden. Effective usage of available space. Apt choice of vegetables and their cultivation methods. Judicious crop rotation to harvest veggies and greens daily.
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HUM1021, Ethics and Values ( <b>Common to all UG programs</b> )	Poster exhibition on prevention of drug and alcohol consumption inculcating ethical values to younger generation. <a href="https://vit.ac.in/detailview/ethics-and-value-poster-exhibition">https://vit.ac.in/detailview/ethics-and-value-poster-exhibition</a>
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## Report of VIT-Chennai Campus

### PREAMBLE

- a) End all forms of discrimination against women and girls
- b) Ensure women's full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision making
- c) Enhance the use of enabling technology, in particular, information and communications technology, to promote the empowerment of women

### Policies / Major decisions taken regarding the SDG

VIT strives to offer free undergraduate education to underprivileged girls of the society as a means to empower and make them self-reliant. Ms Dhevayani, a tribal student from Madurai, who topped the class 12 board exams, was promised full free education in a course of her choice, B. Com/BBA by VIT.

The leadership at VIT boasts about equal representation of women in positions like Executive Director (Dr Sandhya Pentareddy), ProVC VIT Chennai (Dr V. S. Kanchana Bhaaskaran), deans and directors of various schools of the institute (one third being women). The institute offers equal opportunities to women faculty, who constitute 40-50% of the strength of the respective schools.

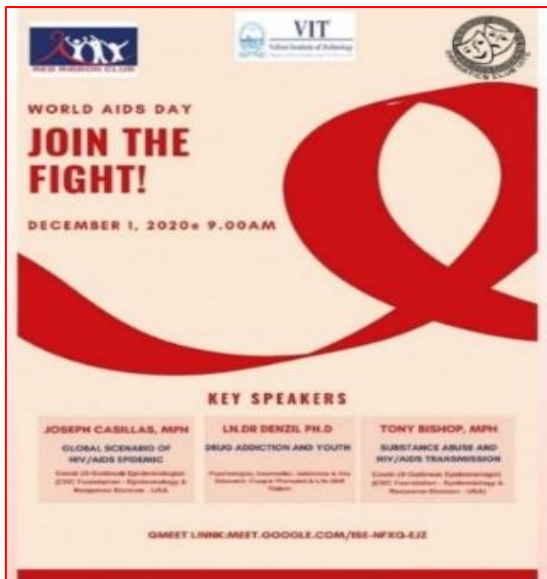
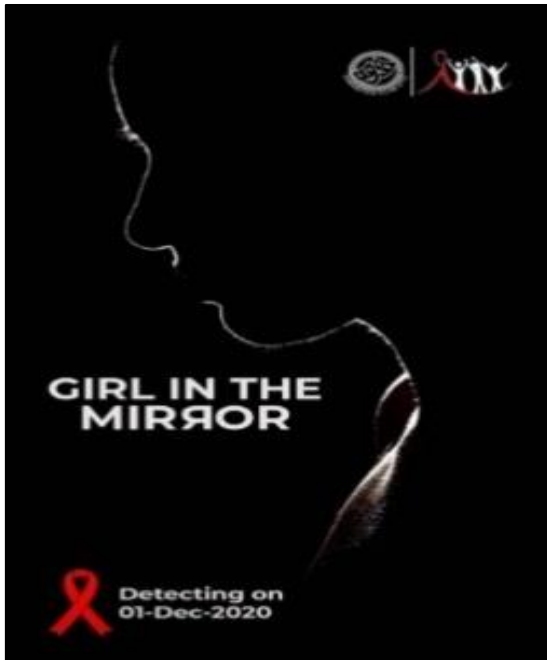
### Academic Details pertaining to the SDG (Launch of program, inclusion of course, modifications in syllabus etc..)

VIT School of Law (VITSOL) offers courses LAW4062 (Women and Criminal Law) and LAW3102 (Law of Crimes-I) under B.A, L.L.B (Hons.) which stress on the need of gender equality and make one aware of the offences against women.

### Major events organised

In view of **International Day for the Elimination of Violence against women** (25<sup>th</sup> November 2020) & **World AIDS Day** (1<sup>st</sup> December 2020) respectively, the **RED RIBBON CLUB** at Vellore Institute of Technology Chennai organised series of events based on the theme, **INTERRELATION OF VIOLENCE, HIV / AIDS AND DRUG USE**, starting from 25<sup>th</sup> Nov to 1<sup>st</sup> Dec 2020. The purpose is to create a sensitization among the students community on various

Issues related to violence and crime and also instill a sense of responsibility in addressing these issues for a sustainable change in the society.



Series of webinars to sensitize the students on gender equality  
Development Cell



International Women's day was celebrated in the campus on March 6<sup>th</sup> 2020 organised by the Women Development Cell

### Seminars/ Workshops/ FDPs/ Conferences organised for Teaching and Non-Teaching Staff members:

In addition to the activities organized by women development club, other schools and Academic Staff College (ASC) also took equal part in sensitizing the teaching and non-teaching staff members on gender equality by conducting seminars and workshops on the related aspects. Some of them are listed below:

School	Seminar/ Workshop	Title	Date	Number of Participants
ASC	Seminar	Prevention of Sexual Harassment in Work Place	20.08.2019	217
VITBS	Workshop	One Day Training Programme on Human Rights for Women	13.09.2019	40
SAS	Workshop	Women Self Defence Workshop	14.09.2019	30
VITSOL	Seminar	Legal Awareness Programme on Laws related to Women	03.01.2020	95

Thus apart from imparting high quality education on technical, management and law skills at VIT Chennai, the institute also owns the responsibility of inculcating the gender equity awareness among students, faculty and staff members.

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