



**MANAV RACHNA
UNIVERSITY**

Declared as State Private University vide Haryana Act 26 of 2014



**1 NO
POVERTY**



PROGRESS REPORT 2022-23



Manav Rachna University

Declared as State Private University vide Haryana
Act 26 of 2014



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1. Preamble

Manav Rachna University (MRU) is deeply committed to addressing global challenges, particularly those related to poverty and inequality. As part of its broader social responsibility, MRU actively contributes to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 1: No Poverty. Through various initiatives and programs, MRU strives to alleviate poverty and promote social justice. These efforts include:

- **Community Outreach:** MRU organizes regular outreach programs to engage with marginalized communities, providing essential services such as healthcare, education, and skill development.
- **Scholarship Programs:** The University offers a range of scholarships and financial aid to talented students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds, ensuring equal opportunities for higher education.
- **Social Entrepreneurship:** MRU fosters a culture of social entrepreneurship, encouraging students to develop innovative solutions to address social and environmental issues.



- **Research and Innovation:** Faculty members at MRU conduct research on poverty alleviation, social justice, and sustainable development, contributing to knowledge and policy development.
- **Partnerships:** The University collaborates with government agencies, NGOs, and industry partners to implement impactful programs and initiatives aimed at reducing poverty.

By embracing its social responsibility and actively contributing to SDG 1, MRU is making a significant difference in the lives of countless individuals and communities.

2. Community Outreach Programmes

Kindness Week Initiative at MRU: Paridhan Clothes Collection and Distribution Drive for SDG 1 - No Poverty

The students and staff of MRU donated clothes to participate in World Kindness Week on 11th November 2022 by donating their clothes under the drive name "Paridhan" under the **SDG 1 - No Poverty**. The purpose of this campaign was to collect and provide the underprivileged and needy with warm clothing before next winter. It was a pleasure seeing Staff and students volunteering for this event by donating jerseys, jackets, shirts, and blankets. They also helped to sort these clothes further. Everyone from the students to our dedicated faculty has been



an essential part of this drive and even requested to continue the campaign for another week so that they could contribute more. Clothes were distributed among old age homes, orphanages, rescue homes and the housekeeping and security staff of Manav Rachna. These clothes were further distributed in the Slums on 23rd and 28th November 2022 by the Students and Faculty members.



Students and Faculty members donating Clothes for the drive

Ek Mutthi Daan with a goal of No One Sleeps Hungry

As part of Manav Rachna University's commitment to community welfare and the fight against poverty, the annual 'Ek Mutthi Daan' initiative has distributed over 20,000 kg of dry grains, supporting the goal of 'No One Sleeps Hungry.' This effort aligns with SDG 1, which seeks to end poverty in all its forms, by addressing food insecurity and providing vital resources to vulnerable communities. Contributions from faculty and various departments have been crucial in achieving this



mission. The School of Leadership and Management set a remarkable example, surpassing its target by donating 2,210 kg of grains along with ₹9,300 in cash. Their dedication to alleviating hunger reflects the spirit of giving at MRU, inspiring other departments to participate with equal enthusiasm and commitment. Through this initiative, MRU is making a tangible impact on reducing poverty and hunger in the region.



Kaushal Kaaryashaala initiative to equip students with IT skills

The Kaushal Kaaryashaala Initiative, launched by the Dr. O.P. Bhalla Foundation in collaboration with the Innovation and Incubation Centre (IIC) at Manav Rachna University, tackles the issue of school dropouts among underprivileged youth by providing them with essential skills to enhance their employment prospects. This initiative, which targets students from government schools in Faridabad from grades 9 to 12,



plays a key role in breaking the cycle of poverty, aligning with SDG 1's goal to end poverty in all its forms. By equipping students with valuable IT skills through a hybrid model of online and offline teaching, the program empowers them to secure higher-paying jobs, improving their socio-economic status and reducing their vulnerability to exploitation. The Kaushal Kaaryashaala Initiative serves as a stepping stone for underprivileged students, helping them build a sustainable future and contributing to poverty alleviation through skill development and access to better opportunities.



Teacher on Call initiative by Sahaj Path:

The 'Teachers on Call' Program provides free academic support to government school students, directly addressing educational disparities and contributing to the upliftment of local youth from



underprivileged backgrounds. As a toll-free remedial education service, it ensures that students from Class 6 to 10 in government schools across Haryana, particularly those in small towns, rural areas, and economically disadvantaged communities, have access to inclusive, quality education with just a phone call. This initiative aligns with the goals of SDG 1, which seeks to end poverty in all its forms, by empowering children from underserved communities with the knowledge and skills necessary to break the cycle of poverty.

The program, now a regular annual practice, has been utilized by faculty members to teach students remotely. Following the successful implementation of the 'Teacher on Call' project in West Bengal over the past three years, the program was launched for government school students (Classes VI to X) in Faridabad by Sh. Yashpal Yadav, Hon'ble Deputy Commissioner of Faridabad. The online launch event was attended by around 150 educationists, corporate leaders, students, and media representatives. Through this initiative, students can connect with qualified and experienced subject teachers for assistance in Mathematics, Science, Social Science, and English via the toll-free number 1800 890 6006. Sh. Yashpal Yadav commended the role of Manav Rachna and partners like Sahaj Path Knowledge Foundation and the Faridabad Education Council in transforming the educational



landscape of Haryana. He emphasized the importance of such initiatives in elevating the academic performance of underprivileged students, ensuring that no child is left behind in their pursuit of education. This project will not only improve educational standards but will also help identify and nurture young talent, empowering them to overcome socio-economic barriers and contribute to breaking the cycle of poverty.

Empowering Communities through Digital Literacy: Enhancing Education and Reducing Poverty

On July 17, 2022, MRU in collaboration with the Dr. O.P. Bhalla Foundation, took a significant step toward reducing poverty by enhancing digital literacy in the adopted village of Dayalpur. In line with the foundation's mission to provide equitable access to education, a donation drive was organized where computer systems were distributed to the Dayalpur Government School. This initiative aims to bridge the digital divide, empowering students with essential computer skills that are crucial for economic mobility and future employment opportunities.

As part of this effort, 100 refurbished computers have been earmarked for donation to various government schools and organizations in the surrounding areas. To date, 40 of these systems have been successfully distributed, benefiting educational institutions in Nariyala, Panhera

Khurd, Dayalpur, and Sanatan Dharm School, each receiving 10 computer systems. By equipping students with the tools needed to thrive in a technology-driven world, this initiative opens new learning and employment pathways, helping to lift them out of poverty.

Through such initiatives, the Dr. O.P. Bhalla Foundation continues to drive meaningful social change, reinforcing its commitment to community upliftment and providing quality education as a means to break the cycle of poverty.

Community Empowerment and Poverty Alleviation: Advancing Sustainable Development in Adopted Villages

The adoption of five new villages—Chhainsa, Atali, Mothuka, Dayalpur, and Gadkheda—marks a significant step toward community development and poverty alleviation. Through this initiative, Team Foundation



collaborates with faculty members and students to engage with local leaders and address the specific needs of these communities. Each year, visits to the villages are organized to meet with the local Sarpanchs, fostering a dialogue to identify critical areas for improvement, including environmental sustainability through plantation drives tailored to the villages' requirements.

By discussing the unique challenges and preferences of each village, such as the types of trees—flowering, non-flowering, or



fruit-bearing—most beneficial for the local economy, the initiative contributes to both environmental stewardship and agricultural productivity, supporting livelihoods and reducing poverty. In addition to these environmental efforts, Manav Rachna University conducts regular visits to provide direct support to the community, especially focusing on improving the well-being of women and girls. Activities such as health and hygiene education and the distribution of sanitary napkins (in partnership with Sofy) aim to uplift girls by addressing their fundamental health needs. These combined efforts empower the villages to overcome socio-economic challenges, contributing to poverty alleviation and sustainable development.

3. Scholarship Programs

The scholarship and tuition waiver initiatives outlined aim to support financially disadvantaged and high-achieving students, aligning with SDG. Scholarships are awarded based on academic performance (marks or CGPA) and range from full to partial tuition fee waivers. Manav Rachna University also provides need-based freeships and merit-cum-means scholarships for students from economically weaker sections (EWS), particularly benefiting Haryana domicile students. Additional scholarships are available for students excelling in sports, children of university employees, alumni, siblings, and wards of the military, as well as special schemes for girl students and top scorers in national exams like JEE, CLAT, and SAT. This comprehensive scholarship framework alleviates financial barriers, enhancing educational access and supporting underprivileged students to continue their studies.



4. Social Entrepreneurship

Addressing SDG 1

On February 2, 2023, a workshop titled ‘Encouraging Entrepreneurship Mindset in Youth’ was held at Government College, Mohna, organized by the Dr. O.P. Bhalla Foundation, Manav Rachna University’s Innovation and Incubation Center, BBA students, and the Bhartiya Yuva Shakti Trust (BYST). Aligned with SDG 1 (No Poverty), the event aimed to empower local youth by equipping them with entrepreneurial skills, enabling them to pursue self-employment and economic independence—key steps in breaking the cycle of poverty. The workshop introduced students to startup concepts, government schemes, and mentorship opportunities, providing them with the knowledge and tools needed to launch their own ventures. Student startups from MRU’s RCC Center shared valuable insights, sparking creativity and enthusiasm among the participants from Mohna College.

This collaborative initiative will continue to offer mentoring and funding support to aspiring young entrepreneurs, fostering long-term sustainable economic opportunities and contributing to poverty alleviation in the region.



5. Prominent Research Publication

Addressing SDG 1

[STREET VENDORS AND HUMAN RIGHTS | RostrumLegal](#)

The research publication of the faculty of Manav Rachna University titled: street vendors and Human rights highlighted the critical role of street vendors in the informal sector, particularly in Asian nations, where the sector forms the backbone of the economy. The article discusses the following; (i) Street vendors sell affordable goods that are essential for the urban poor, yet they face a "Maopic Approach" from urban planners who ignore their role while envisioning cleaner or smarter cities. (ii) Removing street vendors could destabilize the economy and violate their human rights. (iii)

The essential services these vendors provided during the COVID-19 pandemic,

demonstrating their importance to urban life.

(iv) To address the challenges they face, the

implementation of the Street Vendors Act is proposed. The act aims to protect the rights of vendors by preventing their eviction until proper surveys are conducted and designated vending zones are established. This act provides a framework for state governments and local authorities to regulate and support street vendors, ensuring their rights and livelihoods are respected.





The article also calls for sensitizing authorities to the plight of street vendors and training officials to be more empathetic and aware of their rights. Proper enforcement and education are necessary to create a fair society and uphold human rights. The quote from Martin Luther King Jr., "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere," reinforces the broader societal implications of ignoring the rights of marginalized groups like street vendors.

6. Partnerships Addressing SDG 1

CSE	ICT Academy	2022	15-02-2024 to 15-02-2029 (Renewed) 01-12-2022 to 04-01-2024	5 years 2 year	Honeywell Youth Empowerment Training on Advanced -IT skills from 3rd Jan 2023 to 20th Jan 2023 at MRU Number of students participated - 120
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MRCPS	Institute of Peace Research & Action, Delhi	2020	10.02.2020-09 .02.2025	5 Years	Year 2020 1. Manav Rachna Centre for Peace and Sustainability (MRCPS) created in association with Institute of Peace Research & Action (IPRA). 2. Activities under Peace club 3. Book (around 400) donation by Dr. Susheela Bhan (IPRA)
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