# SDG 1

## NO POVERTY

## INTRODUCTION

Poverty is a multidimensional challenge that extends beyond income and is closely associated with access to education, skills, livelihood opportunities, financial resources, healthcare and social support. Advancing SDG 1: No Poverty therefore requires sustained efforts that strengthen capabilities, promote inclusion and create opportunities for individuals and communities to improve their socio-economic well-being.

At SRM University-AP, this commitment is carried forward through community engagement, social outreach, livelihood and entrepreneurship support, and academic research. During 2025–26, eleven events and initiatives across the University were formally mapped to SDG 1, together engaging more than 1,650 students, faculty, alumni and community members — from tribal villages and orphanages to rural micro-enterprises and university seminar rooms.

The University's approach combines direct, hands-on interventions — medical and charity outreach, donation drives, and livelihood support for rural women entrepreneurs — with knowledge creation through seminars, workshops and peer-reviewed research on poverty, inequality and financial inclusion. Together, these strands connect students and faculty to the lived realities of economic disadvantage while contributing evidence to the wider development conversation.

The sections that follow present these initiatives as SRM University-AP experienced them in 2025–26: community outreach and livelihood support; entrepreneurship empowerment through the ADITRI programme; and research and academic engagement — closing with the year's key figures.

| 11 | 1,650+ | 100 | 15 |
|---|---|---|---|
| *Events & initiatives mapped to SDG 1 in 2025–26* | *Participants and beneficiaries engaged* | *Women-led micro-enterprises supported through ADITRI* | *Scopus-indexed publications mapped to SDG 1 (2025–26)* |

*Source: SRM University-AP SDG 1 event register, Directorate of Alumni Relations, Directorate of Entrepreneurship & Innovation, Directorate of Student Affairs, and Scopus/SciVal (data exported 2 September 2026).*

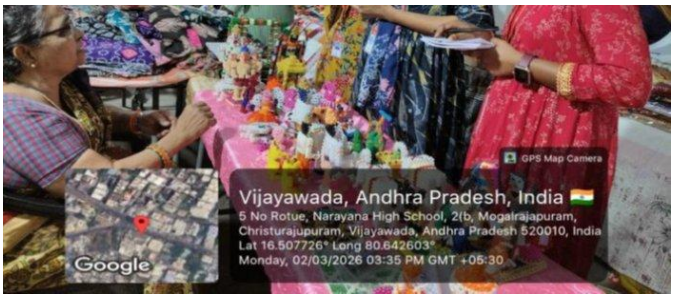
## COMMUNITY OUTREACH & SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY

SRM University-AP's most direct engagement with SDG 1 took the form of hands-on outreach to under-resourced communities. On 15 March 2026, the Directorate of Alumni Relations and the SRM University-AP Alumni Association organised a Charity & Medical Outreach Programme at Y.G. Pakala Village, a tribal settlement in Chinturu Mandal. Eight faculty and alumni, a doctoral scholar and twelve undergraduate students — together with NCC cadets and SARC members — joined roughly eighty villagers for a day of free health check-ups, distribution of clothing, groceries and educational materials, and hygiene awareness sessions, supported by a University sanction of ₹2,00,000. The event's own outcome report noted that it "supported basic needs, encouraged learning among children, and strengthened community bonds."

These one-time drives were complemented by wider mobilisation: the Directorate of Student Affairs' Armed Forces Flag Day Fundraiser (6–9 January 2026) engaged around 500 students across campus in a social-awareness and fundraising campaign, while the NCC and NSS units jointly ran a community outreach and training programme at Namburu Village in May 2026.

A similar spirit ran through the NSS Cell's Mattress Distribution to Orphanage drive on 20 September 2025, in which four faculty members and five student volunteers delivered mattresses to improve living conditions for children at a local orphanage — a small but concrete step consistent with the NSS motto, "Not Me, But You."






Community service was also built directly into the curriculum. Through **VAC-507 "Samaj Seva"**, offered to the MBA 2025 batch by the Paari School of Business, 170 students worked between January and May 2026 with government schools, NGOs and local communities across Amaravati, Guntur and Vijayawada — engaging with underprivileged groups, local artisans and children at community centres to build empathy, civic awareness and an applied understanding of grassroots social need.






# ENTREPRENEURSHIP & LIVELIHOOD EMPOWERMENT

The University's Directorate of Entrepreneurship & Innovation, through the HatchLab Research Centre, carried its CSR commitment to SDG 1 furthest through **ADITRI** — a programme built around the goal of transforming rural women into micro-entrepreneurs. The initiative culminated in two Machinery Distribution & Technical Know-How Transfer ceremonies during May 2025, each marking the formal handover of machinery and technical training to women-led micro-ventures.

The first ceremony, held at the APJ Abdul Kalam Auditorium on the SRM AP campus on 3 May 2025, brought together 177 external beneficiaries and 12 staff members, with Dr Chandra Sekhar Pemmasani, Union Minister of State for Rural Development & Communications, as chief guest.

The second ceremony took place on 6 May 2025 at V Convention, Sakhinetipalle, in Dr B.R. Ambedkar Konaseema district, with 177 external beneficiaries and 13 staff members in attendance. It was addressed by Ganti Harish Madhur Balayogi, Member of Parliament for Amalapuram, alongside Minister Vasamsetti Subhash and MLA Deva Varaprasad. In total, the two ceremonies marked machinery and technical know-how transfer to 100 women-led micro-enterprises, intended — in the programme's own words — to equip beneficiaries "for sustainable growth" and to highlight "the role of government and CSR support in driving grassroots economic development."

## *"Transforming Rural Women into Micro Entrepreneurs — Empowering Rural Women With Skills & Tools For Change."*

ADITRI PROGRAMME · DIRECTORATE OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP & INNOVATION, SRM UNIVERSITY-AP






# RESEARCH & ACADEMIC ENGAGEMENT

SDG 1 was equally advanced through the University's seminar and workshop calendar. In December 2025, the Department of Sociology and Anthropology at the Easwari School of Liberal Arts hosted the **50th All India Sociological Conference** of the Indian Sociological Society — "Mobilities and Inequalities: Shifting Contexts, Changing Paradigms" — drawing 422 participants over three days to examine how caste, class, gender, tribe, religion and region shape unequal access to mobility and resources amid migration, digital transformation and climate-linked displacement.




In February 2026, the Department of Economics convened a seminar on **"Cash Transfers and the Politics of Welfare: Rethinking Social Protection in India,"** bringing 21 participants together — including a session on the ongoing Universal Basic Income debate — to examine the fiscal and political dimensions of cash and in-kind transfer programmes and rights-based approaches to redistribution.

The department's **5-Day Workshop on Econometrics and Large-Scale Data Analysis for Social Science Research** (13–17 October 2025) trained 41 participants in analysing national datasets such as the NSSO and IHDS using STATA, EViews, R and Nesstar — applying propensity-score matching, difference-in-differences and panel-data techniques to welfare-related research questions, with sessions led by experts from NIT Silchar, the Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation, and IIT Hyderabad.







Fieldwork also fed directly into applied research. As part of their Samaj Seva coursework, one MBA student team surveyed 100 residents of low-income urban neighbourhoods for a project titled "Enhancing Urban Poor through Financial Inclusion." The study found that while 49% of respondents held a bank account, only 22% used formal banking to save; 44% saved nothing at all, and 34% relied on informal methods — findings the team attributed to gaps in financial literacy and trust rather than access alone, leading them to recommend that inclusion programmes pair banking access with awareness and skill-building.

This engagement is reflected in the University's scholarly output. Between 2025 and 2026, SRM University-AP published **15 Scopus-indexed papers** mapped to SDG 1: No Poverty, drawing 31 citations and 487 views, with a field-weighted citation impact of 1.03 — indicating that this body of work is cited slightly above the global average for its field. Four of the fifteen papers (26.7%) involved international collaboration. The work spans financial inclusion and fintech, poverty and inequality measurement, the effect of globalisation on poverty reduction, smallholder irrigation in Ethiopia, and rainwater harvesting for water-insecure regions.

# QUANTITATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

| 1,643 | 100 | 31 | 1,551 |
|---|---|---|---|
| *Participants across community, livelihood & research events with recorded attendance* | *Women-led micro-enterprises transferred machinery under ADITRI* | *Citations drawn by SRM's SDG 1–mapped publications (2025–26)* | *Economically Weaker Section (EWS) students on roll, 2025–26* |

### Social-category representation, 2025–26

| 1,551 | 3,316 | 610 | 161 |
|---|---|---|---|
| *EWS* | *OBC* | *SC* | *ST* |

*Out of 11,592 total students on roll at SRM University-AP, 2025–26. Source: University student-diversity records.*

Taken together, the University's socio-economic access data show a substantial base of students from Economically Weaker Sections and reserved categories studying alongside 267 PhD scholars, 199 foreign national students and 49 NRI students — evidence that access to SRM University-AP's academic programmes is not limited by economic background, in keeping with the access dimension of SDG 1.

# CONCLUSION

Across community outreach, livelihood empowerment and research, SRM University-AP's 2025–26 engagement with SDG 1 reflects a multidimensional approach to addressing poverty: direct support to a tribal village and an orphanage; technical and financial empowerment of 100 women-led rural micro-enterprises through ADITRI; curriculum-embedded social service for an entire MBA batch; and a growing body of Scopus-indexed scholarship on poverty, inequality and financial inclusion.

Together, these initiatives connected more than 1,650 students, faculty, alumni and community members with the realities of economic disadvantage, while contributing new evidence to the wider research conversation on eliminating poverty. Deepening rural and tribal outreach, scaling livelihood programmes such as ADITRI, and continuing to embed SDG-aligned questions into departmental research agendas offer clear directions for strengthening this contribution in the year ahead.