

2.1.2 Efforts undertaken by the Institution for reaching out to the persons who do not have access to higher education

Answer:

The University is continuously growing by following its mission statement "Reaching higher education at your doorstep". PSSOU, being the single Open University of Chhattisgarh state government, provides a platform to Freshers dropout students of conventional institutions,, full-time employees, stay-at-home parents, and learners wanting to increase their knowledge and qualifications. Some of the important efforts undertaken for reaching the unreached are as follows:

1. Admission:


- Admissions are available online and can be easily completed either from home or through a nearby computer center. The student must select one convenient Learner Support Center (LSC) to receive the services of the University.
- Admission notice is advertised through Television, Radio, News papers, Pamphlets and other means and distributed thoroughly over Chhattisgarh State.
- For admission in the University there is no restriction of age.
- In the admission process, document verification is handled online and in case of discrepancies, the learner is intimated to send the required documents/certificates via post and e-mail. Physical presence to provide documents is the last provided option.
- Appropriate Reservation Policies of the State Government are implemented for filling in the reserved seats.

2. Learner Support Center (LCS) :

- The University has LSCs all over Chhattisgarh, i.e, Ambikapur, Sukama, and Rajnandgaon, northern, southern and eastern parts respectively. According to the session (2021-22), there are 138 LCSs and 07 RCs in the University.
- Many districts and regions of Chhattisgarh State are affected by Naxalism. Despite this, the university is successfully operating all the LSCs . 2 RCs and 36 LSCs have been established in Naxal affected areas. According to University data (Session : 2018-19), 6164 learners are studying in these LSCs.
- PSSOU provides handicapped learners the freedom to choose the LSC and there are 09 LSCs for B.Ed. and 26 LSCs for D.El.Ed.
- Chhattisgarh Government provision of scholarship for the learners of deprived groups helps such learners to carrying out their studies. According to data of University (Session 2018-19), 224 S.T. and 330 S.C. students received scholarships. They also received Rs. 22,97,250 and Rs. 30,89,200 respectively. A total amount of Rs. 53,86,450 was distributed in scholarships of learners. This scholarship amount is transferred directly in the bank accounts of learners.

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3. Self-Learning Material (SLM):

- Easy-to-understand SLM is made available at the learner's addresses it is also available as e-content on the University website (www.pssou.ac.in).

4. Assignments :

- Blank answer sheets for assignments are sent at the address of the learners for convenience.

5. Assignment Question Papers :

- Downloadable assignment question papers are provided on the official website.

6. Submission of Assignments :


- Learners submit their assignments to their selected LSC within the notified date.
- Helpdesks present at LSS, RCs and University Headquarters can be reached telephonically (mail or call) and physically for assistance.

7. Attachments :

1. Documents for the numbers of LSC and member of learners in rural effected areas.
2. Photocopy of pamphlets and their materials for advertisement for admission.

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