7.1.8 Describe the Institutional efforts/initiatives in providing an inclusive environment i.e., tolerance and harmony towards cultural, regional, linguistic, communal, socio-economic and such other diversities (within 500 words).

The PSSOU took several initiatives to bring/maintain harmony in the society by contributing in cultural, regional, and socio-economic activities etc. The roots of the university is that "the university shall not discriminate against any citizen of India on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth or language". Accordingly, the university conducts seminars, conferences, workshops and other programmes in order to bring awareness regarding social responsibilities, justice and equality on various themes such as Women Empowerment, International Women Day, Cleanliness Programme, Disability sensitization, Thoughts of Mahatma Gandhi, World Human Rights Day, Blood Donation Camp, Youth Day etc.

The university also provides scholarships to meritorious students every year by returning the 80% course fees paid by the students to the university. In addition, the scholarship offered by Chhattisgarh government is also given every year to all those students who belong to backward sections and communities. The university also initiated scholarship scheme for the B.P.L. (Below Poverty Line) candidates on merit basis. Also, the university started financial assistance for Divyang (PwD) candidates via exempting their programme fees. The scholarship cell of the university along with all the RCs and LSCs ensure that these scholarships are given to all the eligible and needy candidates. In the academic years 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22, learners belonging to SC and ST were given Chhattisgarh state government scholarship. The university also provides benefits to the learners belonging to various reserved category (such as ST, SC, OBC, women, freedom fighter, disabled people, economic weaker section etc.) in some university programmes (such as B.Ed., D.Ed., and Ph.D. etc.) as per the norms of the Govt.

The university also conducts several seminars, conferences and workshops towards creating harmony in the society. The university conducted seminars on the topics such as Social Discrimination, Mahatma Gandhi's Thoughts and their applicability in today's context, Women Empowerment, Disability sensitization programme, etc. with an aim to inculcate values to bring harmony and tolerance among all the stakeholders. The university had conducted "Communal

Pt. Sunderlal Sharma (Open)
University Chhattisgarh
BILASPUR (C.G.)

Shri Resham Lat Praanus Incharge NAAC Criters. PSSOU, CG Bilaspur Harmony Mission" from 19th to 25th November 2018 in collaboration with National Foundation for Communal Harmony (NCFH).

Most of the LSCs of PSSOU are located in the tribal and remote areas to target the backward section and communities and provide appropriate support to them to uplift their lives and livelihood. Special support and counselling desk is constituted at all the RCs and LSCs to provide special support to the needy. The university has established and marked various special learner study centers at remote areas for tribal, Divyang, and women learners in 2022. Also, the university has identified 04 LSCs at disturbed (Naxalite) tribal area as Naxalite-affected special LSCs.

Shri Resham Lal Pradham Incharge NAAC Criteria PSSOU, CG Bilaspur

VERIFIED

REGISTRAR
Pt. Sunderlal Sharma (Open)
University Chhattisgarh
BILASPUR (C.G.)