



SWAMI VIVEKANANDA RURAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE

GIRL CHILD AND WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

We believe that education is the one true way in which the lot of women in the society can be improved. "Educate your women first and leave them to themselves; Women will work out their own destinies" these words are always with us.

At SVRCC, we take the education of the girl child seriously. While there are courses like fashion designing and garment making, nursing assistant, medical lab technician, accounts assistant, beautician etc. which are generally preferred by girls, the College encourages them also venture into non-traditional fields and careers. There is no pre-set mindset and all avenues are theirs to explore.

Aside from their studies, girl students are encouraged, just as the boys are, to take part in various competitions and sports in the College. The realization that "even I can change my life, even I can do whatever I want with my life", that comes after being with the College for some time is something to be seen to be believed. The College has so far helped over 750 girl students graduate in various fields this, in so called "backward communities" where the focus is on getting girls married off at the first available opportunity. It is also wonderful to note that the percentage of girls in our courses has been steadily increasing over the last few years.

The College gives more importance to women related issues be it physical, emotional or psychological and guides the students accordingly. Our girls are emphasized and encouraged to learn martial arts for their own safety at the College. We also conduct regular women oriented special seminars such as Women health and Menstrual Hygiene, Mental wellbeing etc. for the benefit of women of all the age groups. Small steps, yes, but all in line with our philosophy of girl child and women empowerment.



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WOMEN STUDENT TESTIMONIALS

"...I don't have a mother. My grandma raised me up; and she is also the one who put me here. The Director and the Principal Madam looked after me as if I were one of their own kids. I studied here under sponsorship because even the meager fee was not affordable. After I completed the course I joined PIMS as a nurse and now I draw Rs.20,000 as salary each month. Now I am sure of my future, having forgotten much of the past pains. I am now married and have a child. My husband is an electrician. My in-laws treat me well and I am happy. I am fearless about what fate may throw at me. I got this confidence at the College, where I participated in many co-curricular activities and won big time. Every day I think of my time in the College. I am staying at my mother-in-law's place and get much respect for what I do. I can say unequivocally that I owe it all to SVRCC!"

- SAMUNDESWARI



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"...I am 34 year old widowed mother of three children. My husband drank himself into an early grave and left us desolate. I had to struggle a lot to give them a life, and received little consolation or support from my father and mother-in-laws. They were very reluctant to send me to a College at my age. Even my eldest son had his misgivings about me going to a College. But I am basically a bold woman, so I took on the task of convincing each of them separately and successfully acquired their consent. I did this course in the interest of my three children, who were in their 10th, 8th and 6th standards. I joined as an attendee at an ENT clinic each evening where I drew a salary of Rs 5500 per month. That was all I got for the maintenance of the family. So naturally, this course meant a world to me. The Director and the Principal took felt for me and decided to help me out. Of the total fee amount I paid only 1100 rupees. The rest was taken care of by my kind benefactors. They further helped with my kid's education and gave me 3000 rupees towards it. I am grateful to them for their kindness and care. The College taught me how to face life's challenges and keep myself fit in the face of adversity. They taught me Basic English communication, Computer skills necessary for procuring a decent employment these days. My eldest son scored 475 out of 500 (95%) in his 10th Board Exam. He is keen to pursue medicine. I am a proud mother. Now I take care of the reception and the accounts of the clinic and earn a monthly salary of Rs 25000/- Thanks to SVRCC!..."

- **VIMALA**