

Report on

Sustainable Development

Goal 1





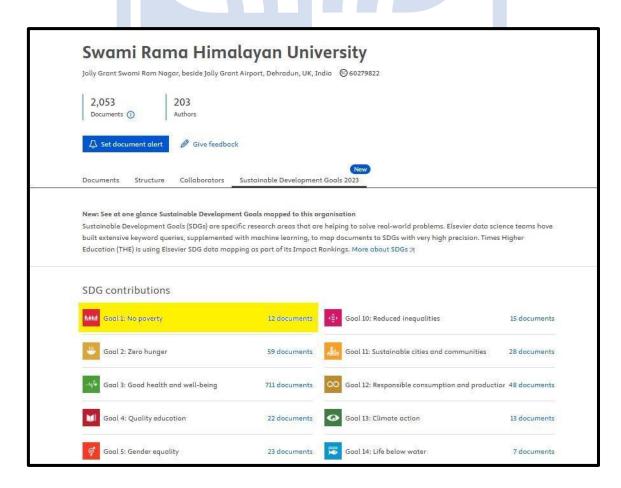
Sustainable Development Goal: No Poverty

Swami Rama Himalayan University (SRHU) demonstrates its unwavering commitment to Sustainable Development Goal 1 (No Poverty) through impactful initiatives. By focusing on empowering communities, fostering sustainable livelihoods, and promoting education and skill development, SRHU actively addresses the multidimensional aspects of poverty and contributes to economic independence and social upliftment.

1.1 Research on Poverty

1.1.1 Papers co-authored with low or lower-middle income countries

The University's research initiatives focus on addressing the multiple dimensions of poverty that affect the Himalayan region including limited livelihood options, unequal access to healthcare, and social vulnerability. Research on financial inclusion, health resilience, and sustainable livelihoods reflects the University's belief that economic empowerment and social welfare must go hand in hand. SRHU has published a total of 12 documents that align with SDG 1: No Poverty with a total citation of 53. All publications under SDG 1: No Poverty have Indian authors, and India is a lower-middle-income country per World Bank classification. One publication includes international collaboration within the LMIC region (Nigeria), strengthening their relevance.



Scopus indexed documents that align with SDG 1: No Poverty



Studies such as "Impact of Financial Inclusion for Achieving Sustainable Development" and "Urban Health Resilience" explore how financial access and strong public health systems can lift communities out of poverty. At the same time, work on the circular economy, nutraceutical potential of Himalayan fruits, and rural healthcare access highlights University's focus on creating opportunities suited to the local context aligning with goals of SDG 1: No Poverty.

1.1.2 No Poverty: FWCI

The University produced 11 research outputs linked to SDG 1: No Poverty, five of which have measurable Field-Weighted Citation Impact (FWCI) values. Collectively, these studies achieved an average FWCI of 0.46, indicating a growing international recognition of the institution's research visibility. Notably, the 2024 publication "Himalayan Fruit and Circular Economy: Nutraceutical Potential, Traditional Uses, Challenges and Opportunities" recorded an FWCI of 1.74, reflecting above-world-average influence in sustainable economic research. The University's ongoing interdisciplinary collaborations and emphasis on addressing real-world poverty challenges continue to strengthen its global research impact and contribution to inclusive, sustainable development.

1.1.3 No poverty: publications

Faculty research on social protection systems, geriatric welfare, and awareness of government schemes contributes to inclusive growth. Through its research ecosystem, SRHU not only generates knowledge but also strives to translate it into action empowering individuals, improving access to basic services, and strengthening community resilience.

Table 1: Research Publications Addressing Themes Related to SDG 1 – No Poverty

SN	Title	Authors	Journal/Book	Cite Score	Year	FWCI
1	Analysis of Smart City Solutions for Sustainable Urban Growth in India	Kaur, G., Mishra, A., Kumar, P., Kapoor, G.	1st International Conference on Advances in Computer Science Electrical Electronics and Communication Technologies (Ce2ct 2025)	-	2025	-
2	Urban Health Resilience: Strategies for Strengthening Public Health Systems in Response to Urbanization Challenges	Mathur, M., Wani, V.J., Basu, R., Verma, A., Singh, S.	Indian Journal of Community Medicine	1.4	2024	-
3	Himalayan Fruit and Circular Economy: Nutraceutical Potential, Traditional Uses, Challenges and Opportunities	Ritika, Bora, B., Ismail, B.B., Kumar, H., Gupta, A.K.	Food Production Processing and Nutrition	7	2024	1.74



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4	Impact of Financial Inclusion for Achieving Sustainable Development for Removing Poverty in All Forms: A Review Study from India	Rana, G., Sharma, R., Sharma, B.	Sustainable Finance	0.6	2024	-
5	United Nations Sustainable Development Goals in the Context of Hydrological Extremes	Uniyal, A., Kaushik, N., Uniyal, H.P.	Water Sustainability and Hydrological Extremes: Quantity, Quality and Security	-	2024	-
6	Regional Anaesthesia in Low-Resource Settings	Asthana, V., Agrawal, S.P., Jain, P., Bindra, S.	Steps to Successful Regional Anesthesia: Challenges and Solutions	-	2024	-
7	Morbidity Pattern, Social Safety Net, and Drug Adherence Level Among Geriatric Patients	Thakur, M.K., Talati, S., Gupta, A.K., Bhattacharya, S., Singh, A.J.	Journal of Education and Health Promotion	2.7	2019	0.13
8	Treatment of Substance Use Disorders through Government Health Facilities: Drug Deaddiction Programme of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare	Dhawan, A., Rao, R.V., Ambekar, A., Pusp, A., Ray, R.	Indian Journal of Psychiatry	2.2	2017	0.11
9	Socio-economic Differentials in Utilization of Maternal Health Care Services: A Study in Urban Slums of District Dehradun	Srivastava, A.K., Kishore, S., Padda, P.	Bangladesh Journal of Medical Science	1.5	2015	0.16
10	Awareness and Utilization of Social Security Scheme and Other Government Benefits by the Elderly	Srivastava, A.K., Kandpal, S.D.	Indian Journal of Community Health	0.4	2014	0.15
11	Social Problems and Basic Unmet Needs of the Elderly	Srivastava, A.K., Kandpal, S.D.	Indian Journal of Community Health	0.4	2013	-

Evidence: Click here

1.2 Proportion of students receiving financial aid to attend University because of poverty

Swami Rama Himalayan University (SRHU) is deeply committed to the principles of SDG 1: No Poverty, through structured, sustained initiatives that address the root causes of poverty and promote inclusive socioeconomic growth. The University implements a range of programmes focused on education, healthcare, skill development, and community empowerment, targeting underprivileged populations in Uttarakhand and neighbouring regions.



1.2.1 Low-income students receiving financial aid

SRHU ensures equitable access to higher education by offering need-based scholarships, fee concessions, and financial assistance schemes for students from economically weaker sections, thereby enabling them to pursue quality education without financial barriers.

Table 2. Financial Assistance to Economically Weaker Students (SRHU)

Category	Total Students Enrolled	Students Receiving Financial Aid	Percentage (%)
All Programs Combined	3,363	708	21.1%

Over one-fifth of enrolled students receive direct financial assistance, underscoring the University's commitment to social equity and educational inclusion. By systematically addressing economic disparities in higher education, SRHU strengthens the link between academic opportunity and poverty alleviation supporting SDG 1: No Poverty.

Policy for Scholarship and Fee Concessions: Click here

SWAMI RAMA HIMALAYAN UNIVERSITY

Policy for Scholarships & Fee Concessions

- 1. Title: This Policy shall be called as 'Policy for Scholarships & Fee Concessions'.
- 2. This Policy shall come into force from the date of approval of Board of Governors.
- Objective: Empower academic and career goals of the student by providing financial aid to pursue their education.
- 4. Applicability: This Policy shall be applicable to all the programmes, except Medical programmes, being conducted under constituent colleges/schools of the University.
- 5. Types of Scholarships: Under this policy, the various Scholarships are defined hereunder:
 - 5.1 Merit Scholarship based on the marks attained by the candidate in the last qualifying examination:

% in Last Qualifying exam	% of Scholarship	p on Tuition Fee*	
	For UG Students	For PG Students	
≥90% (9.5 CGPA)	100%	50%	
<90% to ≥80% (9.4 - 8.4 CGPA)	75%	40%	
<80% to ≥70% (8.3 - 7.8 CGPA)	50%	30%	

^{*} The Scholarship shall be granted only on tuition fee of the First year and will be distributed over the entire duration of the programme.

5.2 Merit cum Means Scholarship for economically weaker section

- 5.2.1 The Scholarship shall be applicable to the candidates/students whose family annual income is less than Rs. 5,00,000/- (Rupees Five lakhs) in a year.
- 5.2.2 Scholarship shall be given on the basis of merit.
- 5.2.3 The quantum of Scholarship will be equivalent to 50% of the Tuition Fee of the First year.
- 5.2.4 Scholarship extension up to 50% of the Tuition Fee for the subsequent years will be based on maintaining a minimum ≥70% (7.8 CGPA) and attendance record of at least 80% in each of the semester.
- 5.2.5 The eligible candidate/student shall submit income certificate from the competent authority which will be duly verified by the University.

SRHU/Policy for Scholarships & Fee Concessions

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Excerpt from Swami Rama Himalayan University's Scholarship Policy highlighting financial assistance provisions for students from Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) in alignment with SDG 1: No Poverty



1.3 University anti-poverty programmes

1.3.1 Bottom financial quintile admission target

SRHU ensures equitable access to education by admitting and supporting students from economically weaker sections. All applicants with verified annual family income below ₹5 lakh and minimum 70 % marks in Class XII are eligible under the EWS Scholarship Scheme. There is **no restriction** on the number of such admissions, reinforcing SRHU's commitment to inclusion and accessibility for the bottom income quintile supporting goals of No Poverty.

1.3.2 Bottom financial quintile student success

In 2024, approximately 16 % of all graduating students belonged to the Economically Weaker Section (EWS) category, reflecting SRHU's sustained inclusion of low-income learners and their successful progression through degree programs. These students received continued financial assistance through renewal of scholarships based on academic performance (minimum CGPA and attendance thresholds). The consistent graduation of EWS-supported students demonstrates that SRHU not only admits but actively enables the academic advancement of the bottom financial quintile through its merit-cum-means model and integrated student-support framework.

1.3.3 Low-income student support

SRHU currently offers a Merit-cum-Means Scholarship for students whose family annual income is below ₹5, 00,000, which covers up to 50 % of tuition in the first year and may continue into subsequent years subject to CGPA and attendance criteria. While this support is active, in the coming academic year the University intends to broaden its provisions by enhancing transport- and housing-support options (especially for students from remote regions), establishing a dedicated fund for food/meal subsidies to ensure transparency and accessibility of evidence and eligibility details.

1.3.4 Bottom financial quintile student support

Although SRHU's current scholarship scheme addresses students from low-income families, the University recognises the need to more explicitly target those from the bottom 20 % household income bracket. The University plans to include substantial fee waivers, mentoring and completion-support services in alignment with SDG 1: No Poverty.

1.3.5 Low or lower-middle income countries student support (Year: 2024)

At present SRHU's scholarship policy provides special concessions (e.g., full- or part-tuition waiver for orphans, differently-abled, wards of defence personnel) and participates in national government schemes. In the near future, SRHU aims to extend its internationalisation strategy by creating a "Global Access Scholarship" for students from low and lower-middle income countries, offering free or heavily-subsidised tuition, accommodation support, and language/cultural assurance programmes.



1.4 Community anti-poverty programmes

In partnership with local governments, NGOs, and community-based organizations, SRHU conducts skill training programmes, micro-entrepreneurship sessions, and self-help group (SHG) support activities to strengthen local economies. Healthcare outreach through mobile medical units and community health camps provides free or subsidized services to marginalized families, improving health outcomes and reducing financial vulnerability. SRHU has formalized its community engagement and poverty alleviation initiatives through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Himalayan Institute Hospital Trust. This MoU reinforces SRHU's collaborative framework with local governments, NGOs, and community-based organizations to implement skill training programmes, micro-entrepreneurship sessions, and SHG (Self-Help Group) support activities aimed at strengthening local livelihoods and aligning with SDG 1: No Poverty



MoU between SRHU and RDI, HIHT Jolly grant

Evidence: Click here



1.4.1 Local Start-up Assistance

SRHU actively contributes to local entrepreneurship and livelihood creation through its Community and Capacity Development Programme (CCDP) and vocational training initiatives. The University provides free skill development training and mentorship to local community members particularly women and youth from economically weaker backgrounds. Under CCDP, various agricultural cultivation and plantation drives are carried out to promote self-sustaining food and income generation practices, aligning with both SDG 1 (No Poverty).

Additionally, tailoring training programs are conducted free of cost, equipping participants—especially women—with the skills required to start small tailoring units or home-based businesses. The University further supports employability through free vocational courses such as Plumber-cum-Electrician and Data Entry Operator-cum-Office Assistant, providing hands-on training, mentorship, and certification.

Distillation of Lemongrass

The distillation of lemongrass has become a successful income-generating activity for local farmers. In the operational area, 90 farmers from four villages collectively produced approximately 13,190 kilograms of lemongrass. This raw material was processed in a distillation unit, yielding 33 kilograms of lemongrass oil.

The process not only provided the farmers with a practical way to utilize their crops but also offered them a direct financial benefit. Payments for the harvested lemongrass were delivered directly to the households, bringing convenience and satisfaction to the participating families. This initiative has empowered local farmers by enabling them to generate income from lemongrass cultivation while contributing to the community's economic growth while supporting SDG 1: No Poverty

Rosemary Production

The rosemary production initiative saw the collection of 11 kilograms of fresh rosemary, which, after processing, yielded 3.5 kilograms of dry material. This dried rosemary was then sold in the market.



Locally empowered farmers processing harvested rosemary for value addition



Turmeric, Ginger, Millets, Garlic and Chilly cultivation

In the recent agricultural initiatives, significant progress was made in the cultivation and sale of turmeric, ginger, millets, garlic, and chilies:

• **Turmeric Cultivation**: A total of 1,100 kilograms of turmeric was harvested from 24 farmers across 14 villages. After processing, 285 kilograms of turmeric were obtained, with 1.50 kilograms quickly sold.



Turmeric cultivation: A part of initiative that aims at enhancing land use while empowering local farmers for income generation aligning with goals of SDG 1: No Poverty

- Chili Cultivation: 8 kilograms of fresh red chilies were collected from two families across two villages. These chilies were dried and processed into red chili powder, which sold out entirely within just one day.
- Millet Cultivation: Various millets were gathered, including Jhangora (79 kg), Manduwa (50 kg), and Jhakiya (10 kg). All these millets were promptly sold, reflecting strong community demand.
- **Ginger and Garlic Sales**: Fresh ginger and garlic were offered in convenient 100-gram packs, making it easier for consumers to purchase and use them.

These initiatives have not only supported local farmers but also showcased the potential of traditional crops and spices, ensuring a steady income for the participating households while meeting community needs.

Turmeric Seed Production

In 2023, a total of 600 kilograms of high-quality turmeric seeds were sourced from Almora and distributed for cultivation in Toli and neighbouring villages. These seeds were chosen for their higher curcumin content compared to the local variety, which is expected to result in better-quality turmeric with improved yield. The



introduction of these superior seeds aims to enhance both the productivity and profitability of turmeric cultivation in the region, benefiting local farmers by increasing the market value of their produce.



Turmeric plantation under the community cultivation initiative: Introduction of superior seed varieties to enhance productivity, profitability, and livelihood opportunities for local farmers

Plantation

In selected villages, farmers came together to plant 300 lemon trees and 100 apple trees, furthering the region's horticultural development. This initiative was complemented by continued support for four previously established orchards, which received compost fertilizer and were linked with the state horticulture department. This connection has provided the orchards with additional resources and guidance, contributing to enhanced growth and improved productivity. These collective efforts aim to strengthen local livelihoods through sustainable fruit cultivation while promoting environmental stewardship.



Farmer preparing land for apple and lemongrass plantation to promote sustainable farming and income generation in the Himalayan region

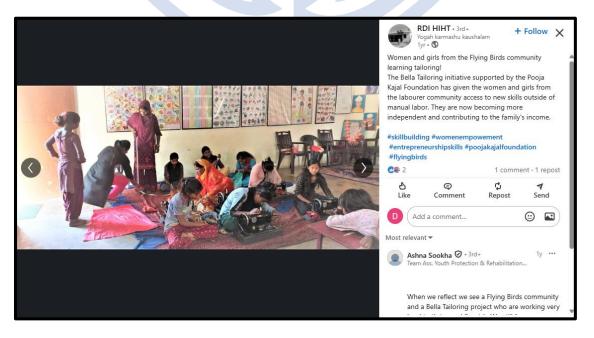


Tailoring

The tailoring unit has maintained its core functions, including making uniforms for University students and staff, hospital masks, and special projects such as sewing scarves for SRHU convocation and providing sweaters, uniforms, and shoes for children in the Swami Rama Scholarship program. This year, a new tailoring center was established in Athoorwala Gujjar Basti to offer tailoring skills to girls and women in the community. The Bella Tailoring program for Flying Birds community continues to train women and girls in tailoring under the guidance of a dedicated instructor. Currently, 8-10 women and girls participate in regular training sessions. The skills they acquire enable them to generate additional income for their families, providing alternative economic opportunities and contributing to the community's overall development aligning with SDG 1: No Poverty.



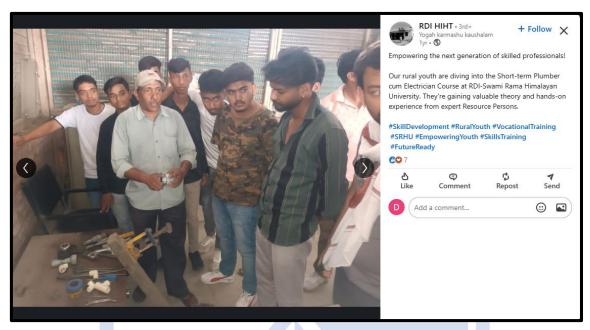
Tailoring training for women under the Bella Tailoring initiative — promoting skill development, self-reliance, and women's economic empowerment



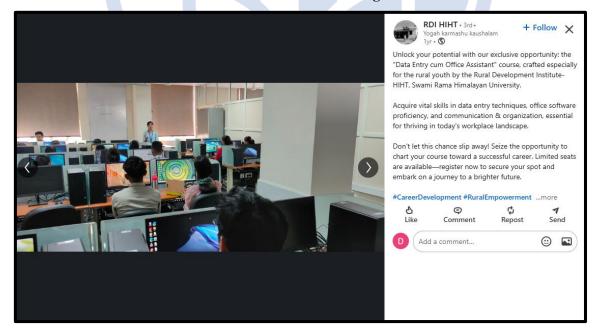


Youth Empowerment and Economic Mobility

Additionally, SRHU exemplifies its commitment to SDG 1: No Poverty through innovative skill development programs aimed at empowering underprivileged youth with employment-oriented training. By launching free courses such as Plumber cum Electrician and Data Entry Operator cum Office Assistant, the University directly contributes to Target 1.2, which focuses on reducing the proportion of people living in poverty in all its dimensions, and Target 1.4, which emphasizes ensuring access to economic resources and opportunities for the poor and vulnerable.



Hands-on training session under the free Plumber-cum-Electrician course — building technical skills for sustainable livelihood and income generation



Digital skills training under the Data Entry Operator-cum-Office Assistant program — fostering job readiness and economic inclusion



President Dhasmana calls upon participating youth to increase practical knowledge

By newspost - May S, 2024 - 🤏 0



Swarm Ranse Himselayan Dinnersity, July Crant has taken an empositive initiative towards skill development and employment for the youth.

Dateline Dehradun: Swami Rama Himalayan University, Jolly Grant has taken an innovative initiative towards skill development and employment for the youth. The Rural Development Department (RDI) of the university has started free courses that are limited duration and employment orientated. This includes Plumber cum Electrician and Data Entry cum Office Assistant courses. SRHU President Dr. Vijay Dhasmana formally inaugurated the courses.

The program was organized in the Doonagiri Auditorium of RDI. While formally inaugurating the event, Chief Guest Dr. Vijay Dhasmana called upon the youth to take advantage of this congrammity and early that this program will play an important role in their

Media coverage of inaugural event of free training courses empowering youth supporting the core principles of SDG 1: No Poverty



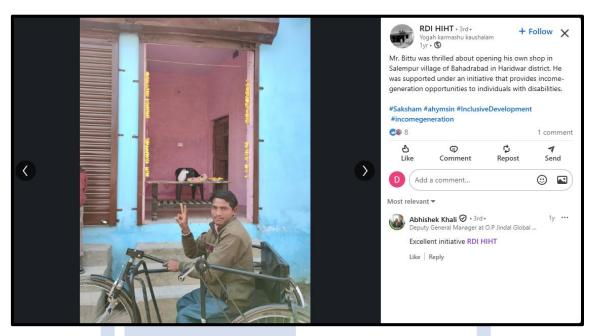


Media coverage of the inaugural event launching free vocational training courses aimed at empowering youth with employable skills and fostering socio-economic upliftment in the region

1.4.2 Local Start-up Financial Assistance

SRHU complements its training and mentorship activities with direct financial assistance to marginalized and vulnerable groups. Through community-focused initiatives, the University provides free sewing machines to trained individuals, enabling them to establish self-owned tailoring enterprises. Furthermore, financial support is extended to differently-abled individuals to help them set up small shops and micro-ventures, directly contributing to SDG 1: No Poverty.





Promoting inclusive livelihoods — two differently-abled entrepreneurs supported through SRHU's incomegeneration initiative inaugurate their shops in Salempur village, enhancing economic participation and community resilience







Distribution of assistive devices and financial support during SRHU's celebration of the International Day of Persons with Disabilities 2023, promoting dignity, inclusion, and self-reliance

1.4.3 Programmes for services access

India's rapid economic growth necessitates a skilled workforce; however, a shortage of skilled manpower hampers development. To address this gap, both the Central and State Governments have launched various skill development programs through the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), in collaboration with agencies, multinational corporations, and the public and private sectors.



SRHU model linking skills development to employment, income generation, and poverty reduction



SRHU collaborates with Learnet Skills Limited and NSDC to design and deliver industry-relevant vocational programs, enhancing the skill ecosystem and promoting financially and socially sustainable livelihoods. This affiliation strengthens SRHU's ongoing efforts toward SDG 1 (No Poverty) and SDG 4 (Quality Education) by providing students and community members with access to nationally recognized training frameworks, certifications, and employment pathways.



Certificate of Partnership recognizing Learnet Skills Limited as an Approved Training Partner of the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), under the Skill India Mission

The NSDC partnership underscores SRHU's role as a regional hub for skill development, supporting youth empowerment, entrepreneurship, and economic inclusion in the Himalayan region. By aligning academic programs—such as B.Voc and CHO—with Skill India and NSQF standards, SRHU ensures that learners gain competencies that lead directly to income generation and self-reliance.







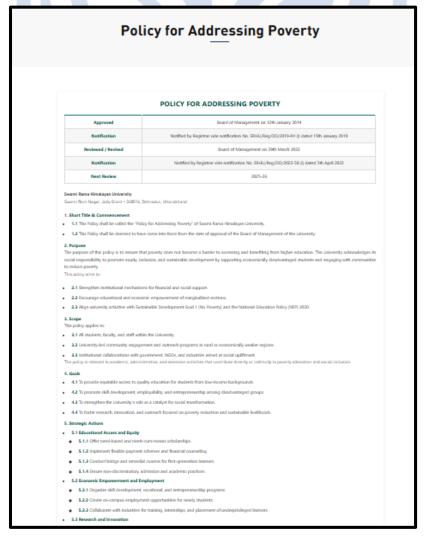
Students engaged in hands-on hospitality training under SRHU's NSDC-aligned training program, gaining practical skills in food preparation, service, and beverage management



Indicator	Data Point	
"Earn While You Learn" model	20–24 months of paid On the Job Training in hotels	
Affordable fees	₹18,000 for CHO program	
Industry linkages	Partnerships with Marriot, Sayaji, and others	
Rural outreach activities	Tarkeshwar Temple outreach, Ganga Dussehra event	
National Skill Certification	NSQF Level 4–7 certifications	

1.4.4 Policy addressing poverty

The University has instituted a **Policy for Addressing Poverty** to ensure that financial hardship does not hinder access to quality education or opportunities for personal growth. The policy emphasizes equitable access, economic empowerment, and social inclusion by providing need-based scholarships, flexible payment options, and on-campus employment for students from economically disadvantaged backgrounds. It also promotes skill development, vocational training, entrepreneurship, and community outreach in rural and marginalized areas with an aim to promote the goals of SDG 1: No Poverty (**Link for policy**)



Excerpt from the policy addressing poverty in place at SRHU