

7.3 Institutional Distinctiveness

Siddhant Institute of Computer Application (SICA) is a premier Computer College known for its academic excellence and value-based education. It provides technical education to both fresh graduates and those who want to enhance their technical and management skills. SICA encourages its faculty and students to undertake consultancy projects with corporate. Situated in the heart of Hills, within the sprawling campus, pollution-free campus. Apart from academic empowerment. Such a process results in molding academically sparkling, socially committed, and internally strong individuals who become an asset to society and the nation.

SICA stands aloft with an edge over other institutions because of its distinctiveness in terms of:

(i) Academic Empowerment

The empowerment of a student in academics enables him or her to accomplish, achieve, and outshine in scholastic activities. Students can accomplish growth in personal acumen, academic skills, and knowledge. It provides better learning opportunities in the future. Involvement in academic empowerment programmes instills a set of skills such as organization, time management, coordination, and motivation. This empowerment ultimately transforms a student into a full-fledged personality with a positive attitude towards behavior and social interactions. Proficiency Prize, Merit Day, and Graduation Day are arranged for final-year students (PG) to recognize their academic achievements.

(ii) Personal Empowerment

Individual empowerment is indispensable for community development. The objective of all developmental activities at SICA is to mold personally strong and emotionally firm personalities who can contribute to society. SICA provides a set of programmes to ensure that the students are empowered in attributes like self-confidence, self-esteem, self-acceptance, self-improvement, and a constructive attitude. They learn how to analyze their own strengths and weaknesses, understand themselves to the core, develop competency, recognize their goals, and claim their own space.

(iii) Cultural Empowerment

Cultural empowerment envisions students obtaining a greater understanding of cultural expressions. It also supports them in developing skills and resources to design, foster, and share cultural works. Cultural empowerment is beneficial to students as it enables them to showcase their talents through their own cultural customs. SICA achieves this goal through a variety of cultural programmes spread throughout the academic year. This sort of empowerment creates a sense of distinctiveness and pride in one's heritage. It can also inculcate greater understanding and appreciation of other artistic and cultural expressions as students get exposed to diverse standpoints and ways of life.

(iv) Physical Empowerment

Physical empowerment denotes acquiring strength, endurance, and physical capabilities through various physical activities, including sports, games, and exercises. Apart from improving physical health and fitness, it enhances self-confidence and self-esteem. It leads to better mental health and social life, as sports and games provide opportunities for social involvement and a sense of team spirit. Physical empowerment essentially contributes to a healthy lifestyle and quality of life. Physical empowerment in SICA aims at a healthy mind in a healthy body for staff and students. The college offers various sports and game facilities to enhance or impart physical empowerment to students and staff members. A volleyball court, basketball court, cricket ground, and football ground are available to students and staff after class hours. Physical empowerment is not limited to the body. Yoga training is part of it, aimed at keeping the body and mind healthy and fit. Physically empowered students will be healthy and, obviously can concentrate better in their studies.

(v) Economic and Financial Empowerment

The economic and financial empowerment of students is achieved through fee concessions and scholarships. SICA considers it a bounden duty to support students hailing from less privileged backgrounds but keen on their

studies. Fee concessions and Installment in Fess are offered to such students so that their academic dreams and aspirations come true. Apart from this, the college conducts additional programmes that ultimately lead to economic and financial empowerment. These include carrier counselling and placement services, which help them find a suitable carrier and placement.

(vii) Social Empowerment

In SICA, social empowerment refers to the process of opening resources and opportunities for students to participate in social life. It involves enhancing social skills and relationships and providing opportunities to engage actively in social and cultural events. Social empowerment aims to address social inequalities and promote social justice. SICA seeks to provide students with the platforms and resources that enable them to be involved in society and to stand up for their rights and wellbeing. Social empowerment is achieved through education and training, enabling involvement in social services, and supporting community-based social activities. Social empowerment is pivotal in promoting development and ensuring social justice. This helps to mold cohesive and just communities.

(viii) Environmental Awareness

Environmental awareness involves knowing the importance of the environment for human welfare and the need to protect and conserve it for future generations. SICA has incorporated it as a routine practice to keep campus 'clean and green'. Students are given awareness regarding a nature-friendly lifestyle through various clubs and related programmes. Environmental awareness is a prerequisite for environmental action and protection. It promotes a sense of obligation and commitment towards the environment and encourages students to promote sustainable living. It upholds more accountable environmental practises and encourages students to stand up to protect and conserve nature and its resources.