

## ALAGAPPA UNIVERSITY, KARAIKUDI

### 7.3 Institutional Distinctiveness

Provide the details of the performance of the institution in one area distinctive to its vision, priority and thrust

Provide the web-link of the institution in not more than 500 words

#### **Institutional Distinctiveness:**

#### **Faculty of Education – Offering Vocational Education, Skill Training and Support for Innovation and Entrepreneurship – Alagappa Institute of Skill Development**

Alagappa University, since its inception, has been involved in carrying out the Skill Development activities for the rural youth. To adhere to the vision of our founder, the great philanthropist and educationist Padma Bhushan Vallal Dr.RM. Alagappa Chettiar, the University formed Several Centers to uplift the social and knowledge wealth of the rural based younger generation. The Skill Development Centre is one among them. It was established in April, 2013.

Prior to this, in 2006, the University started to offer several short-term and certificate training programmes through ‘Garment Training Unit’ with the financial support of NIFT-TEA, Tirupur. Since 2007, in association with IL&FS-CDI, New Delhi, the University has been offering one month placement linked Training Programme/course in ‘Industrial Sewing Machine Operation’. During 2009-2010, skill training was conducted to the Traditional Weavers with NABARD funding. With the financial assistance of the then Entrepreneurship Development Institute (EDI), Government of Tamil Nadu, the Centre has conducted various ‘Entrepreneurship and Skill Training’ on Fashion Designing, Entrepreneurship Faculty Development programmes and Entrepreneurship Development for Prospective Entrepreneurs.

In order to upgrade these activities, an ‘Entrepreneurship cum Skill Development Centre’ was established in the University premises during 2011-2012. This has been converted as ‘Skill Development Centre (SDC)’ in April 2013 to offer University certified short-term skill courses.

In order to provide a comprehensive and complete academic structure to this Skill / Vocational development activities, a permanent Department called **Alagappa Institute of Skill Development (AISD)** was established in May 2015.

The **Alagappa Institute of Skill Development (AISD)** is a pioneering initiative of the Government of Tamil Nadu and Alagappa University among the Universities and other Higher Educational Institutions of our Country to discharge its social responsibilities and Community developments through Vocational Education.

Alagappa University is the first State University to establish a regular department for Vocational Education under the aegis of National Skill Qualifications Framework (NSQF) of Government of India.

This AISD is offering skill based vocational courses/programmes for youth to take employment in industrial sectors and entrepreneurial ventures.

**Objectives of the Alagappa Institute of Skill Development:**

- To study the diverse aspects of skill gap in Industries and to design need based skill / vocational curriculum on line with the National Occupational Standards (NOS) towards improving employability / entrepreneurial skills of the youth
- To create strong linkage with respective Industries, Sector Skill Council (SSC), and Academia to offer quality skill / vocational training
- To train youth as employable and self-reliant with Industry specific Technical, Generic and Life Coping Skills
- To nurture innovation and startup interest among the stakeholders of the University
- To provide support for startup / entrepreneurial ventures
- To promote the holistic development of youth in terms of career goals, decision making and livelihood options

## **Units of AISD**

The AISD has the following units to impart Skill Education to the youth to make them Industry ready:

### **Units for Innovation and Entrepreneurship:**

- Institution's Innovation Council-Alagappa University (IIC-ALU) under Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell.
- Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Career Hub (EIC Hub) funded under RUSA 2.0 Scheme of MoE.
- Innovation Entrepreneurship Development Programme (IEDP Hub) with the support of Entrepreneurship Development and Innovation Institute, Tamil Nadu (EDII-TN)
- Nodal Centre for ICT Academy of Tamil Nadu
- Partnering with MSME, Madurai Branch, under Ministry of MSME to offer skill training cum entrepreneurship oriented programmes periodically

### **Units for Skill Development and R&D:**

- Vocational Degree (M.Voc, B.Voc, PG Diploma, Certificate Courses)
- Alagappa University-Learnnet Institute of Skills (AU-LIS)
- Alagappa University- HebeSec R&D Centre (AU-HRC) for Cyber Security
- Garment Training Unit
- Approved Training Provider for Prime Minister's Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) and DeenDayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY) Schemes of Government of India

These units are housed in three separate buildings of Alagappa University with the spread of 18,500 sq ft with machineries worth of 3.25Cr.

### **Salient Features and Distinct Achievements of Alagappa Institute of Skill Development:**

#### **Institution's Innovation Council:**

Alagappa University has formed 'Institution's Innovation Council-Alagappa University (IIC-ALU)' in March 2021 as per the guidelines of MoE's Innovation Council (MIC) in order to foster the innovation eco-system in the University Departments and Affiliated Colleges.

### **Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Career Hub:**

To scale up the Skill Development activities of the University by focusing on the futuristic skill requirements, **Entrepreneurship, Innovation and Career Hub** has been established under RUSA Phase-2.0 for offering University recognized, National Occupational Standards (NOS) mapped, placement / startup linked Skill Development programmes to the youth along with offering support for innovation and entrepreneurship. This EIC Hub was digitally launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2019.

This EIC Hub is a perfect launch pad for all aspiring youth (Graduates, Students and Drop-outs) for acquiring and exploring employability / entrepreneurial skills through an array of dual certified (University and Sector Skill Councils (SSC) / Industry) skill training programmes. This EIC Hub is gear-up the initiatives of the University on Youth Empowerment through Skill Development activities as its fourth dimension along with Research, Consultancy, and Extension to join with Government to make our Country as 'Skill Capital of the World'.

### **Vocational Degree Streams:**

The AISD has been offering Bachelor of Vocation (B.Voc) degree programmes in two specializations, 1) Fashion Technology and 2) Software Development from the academic year 2014-'15 with the UGC's financial assistance of Rs. 1.85 Cr. From the academic year 2017-'18 onwards, the AISD offers Master of Vocation (M.Voc.) degree programme in the above said two specializations as first of its kind in Tamil Nadu. The NASSCOM (IT/ITeS SSC for Software Development specialization) assessed and adjudicated that the curriculum of B.Voc. Software Development has been compliance to their job role standards of Web Developer and Software Developer. A Computer Laboratory with 80 systems with latest Software including two specialized fashion designing Software, Wet Processing Laboratory, Garment Quality Testing Laboratory and a Garment training unit with 40 Industrialized Sewing Machines are available to AISD to provide the much needed hands-on training to the B.Voc. Students.

The following programmes are offered through AISD:

- UG - B.Voc. (Fashion Technology)
- UG - B.Voc. (Software Development)
- PG - M.Voc. (Fashion Technology)

- PG - M.Voc. (Software Development)
- PG Diploma (Fashion Designing)
- PG Diploma (Big Data Analytics)
- PG Diploma (Cyber Security)

### **Alagappa University-Learnnet Institute of Skills (AU-LIS):**

Alagappa University has established **Alagappa University-IL&FS Institute of Skills (AU-IIS)**, Karaikudi (presently known as **Alagappa University-Learnnet Institute of Skills (AU-LIS)**) in October 2013, as India's first skills institute offering university recognized and NOS compliant placement linked short term High-end employable Technical training programmes and handhold support to start Income Generating Activities on various trades. During this five years of period (2013-2018), the University has built robust systems and has enabled to skill about 1959 youth in Certificate / Diploma programmes in Basic Welding, Advanced Welding, CNC Machine Operator, Electrician, Patient Care Assistant, Solar P.V. Technician and Mechatronics (Diploma and PG Diploma) and **79% of them** (2895 trainees) **have got employment opportunities** in various companies / self-employment.

### **Infrastructural facilities available for offering Skill Traing and Support for Innovation / Entrepreneurship:**

#### **Training facilities on-par with Industrial Standards at AISD / EIC Hub**

- IoT Design and Development Lab
- Healthcare Training Lab
- CNC Milling / Lathe Training Lab
- Entrepreneurship Training
- Training facilities for Vocational Degree Programmes
- The AISD has a Computer laboratory with the financial assistance of UGC for B.Voc. Programmes with the following equipments:
  - 70 Computer Systems with latest Hardware / Software components with LAN & Internet
- The Computer laboratory is also equipped with the following Computer-Aided Design (CAD) Software to give hands-on training to the Fashion Technology related Programmes:
  - ESSDiGarudan Fashion Studio (10 connections)
  - Tuka CAD (10 connections)
  - Reach - Fashion Studio
  - Tuka CAD (10 connections)
  - Tuka Design Studio

- Besides these, the following specialized Laboratories have created:
  - Wet Processing Lab
  - Textile Testing Lab
  - The Garment Training Unit has been equipped with the following apparatuses to give practical exposure to the B.Voc. Fashion Technology students and the students of Short-term courses on ‘Sewing Machine Operator’ and ‘Embroidery’:
    - 40 Industrialized Sewing Machines
    - Single needle machines
    - Over lock machines
    - Flat lock machines
    - Embroidery machines
    - Mannequins

### **Library**

- AISD is augmented with latest books and E-Learning materials related to Fashion Technology and Software Development disciplines for worth of 1 lakh rupees with the UGC’s financial assistance to B.Voc. programmes.

### **Infrastructure in AU-LIS**

The AU-LIS is augmented with the following latest machineries with the financial assistance from IL& FS Institute of Skills, New Delhi to impart Skill Education in various industry-specific short-term Skill training courses:

#### **CNC Training**

- CNC turning machine
- CNC Milling machine
- Display board for tools
- Measuring equipment’s
- Simulation Lab

#### **Welding Training**

- Welding simulator
- TIG Welding machine
- MIG Welding machine
- Welding booths (5 Nos)
- Drilling & Cutting machines
- AG-4, AG-7 grinding machines
- Gas welding
- Hand drill machine - BOSCH

#### **Electrical Training**

- Electrical Working board
- Display board -working tools
- Live demo panel with display products
- Comprising of modular switch

- Fan, UPS, MCBS, DBS, LED lights for 2BHK house wiring

### **Mechatronics Training**

- PLC kit
- Scada PLC kit
- HMI & Sensor training kit
- Pneumatic with PLC
- Hydraulic with PLC

### **Healthcare training**

- Fowler bed / Ralling
- Healthcare Apparatus
- Wheel Chair / Stretcher
- Trays with Instruments (Tray with cover)
- Posters for Anatomy & Physiology
- Reference tools for tropical diseases
- Model of the Transparent lung segment
- Human Placenta
- Embryo
- Digestive system
- Human size Skeleton

### **Commendation:**

- Since 2013, the AISD is being one of the major units of Alagappa University in arranging placement opportunities to the Students.
- As part of COVID-19 relief measures of the Alagappa University,
  - A group of students and trainers of Alagappa Institute of Skill Development, Alagappa University have developed a cost effective “**Sensor based Touch-free Sanitizer Dispenser**” in May, 2020. Earlier the same group of students have developed leg pressed touch-free sanitizer dispenser with household pipes. This sensor based sanitizer dispenser has enabled the Students / Faculty members to get sanitized their hands without touching the dispenser. This sensor based sanitizer dispenser has been installed in the academic and administrative campuses in order to facilitate the usage by all the stakeholders.
  - Dr. K. Sankaranarayanan, Director, University Science Instrumentation Centre and Dr. G. Ilankumaran, Director, EIC Hub have led a team of trainers

SP.Alaguraman and JeyaMurugan and the students S. Prateesh, M. Angappan, Bharani Padikasu and Alagiri of EIC Hub of Alagappa University to design and develop a **cost effective UV-based Air Disinfectant for Air Conditioner systems** in order to control the spreading modes of COVID-19 in Air conditioned environments in September 2020.

- Produced and supplied 5500 cotton facemasks through the Tailoring Unit of AISD to the stakeholders, Frontline Healthcare Workers and General Public during the peak of COVID-19 Pandemic.