CHAPTER - II

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES DEPARTMENTS IN S.K.UNIVERSITY
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This chapter seeks to provide a brief profile of each of the departments under study.

1. DEPARTMENT OF ADULT, CONTINUING EDUCATION & EXTENSION

Genesis of the department

The Department of Adult, Continuing Education and Extension was started in 1985 on a modest scale when Sri Krishnadevaraya University was a unitary University with no constituent or affiliated colleges. It started functioning with 60 Adult Education Centres in the villages around the University with a core staff of just one Project Officer and one Accounts Clerk and with the support staff of 6 Part-time Supervisors. The Department implemented the Adult Education Programme laying emphasis on the education of women and weaker sections (SC & ST) in implementing the literacy programme. The components of awareness and functionality were given due importance.

Investment in Total Literacy Campaign (TLC)

The Department of Adult, Continuing Education and Extension was deeply committed to the UGC’s VIII plan move regarding “involvement of University system in literacy movement so that Adult Education is given a vigorous push and the Universities

*The information has been gathered from the report submitted to U.G.C., IX plan Visiting Committee, 1997. S.K. University, Anantapur.
will be required to restructure their existing programme to fully involve in this effort”. The department acted as a catalytic agent between the University and the community by way of co-ordinating the literacy activities in different departments of the University and affiliated colleges, supplying for them the necessary materials and techno-pedagogic inputs.

Responding to the call of the UGC, a sincere attempt was made to involve the teachers and students of S.K. University in the Adult Education Programme. To start with, a three day seminar-cum-workshop was conducted by the department from 10.3.1990 to 20.3.1990 on the theme of “Involvement of Teachers and Students in Adult Education Programme”. The department also conducted a training programme for the instructors of the Total Literacy Campaign in Anantapur district.

**Participation in Total Literacy Campaign (TLC)**

S.K. University has its jurisdiction over two big districts (Anantapur and Kurnool) of Rayalaseema with 77 affiliated colleges. It has identified areas comprising a cluster of villages, slums and revenue mandals in the two districts under its jurisdiction, keeping in view factors like easy accessibility of the areas, availability of secondary data, felt needs of the people, emerging organizational structure, convergence of the “target” groups of socially disadvantaged segments of the adopted community, etc. To start within 1992 - 93, the University adopted Rapthadu Revenue Mandal for the Total Literacy Campaign with a target group of 6,000 illiterates in 3 years.

**STARTING OF M.A. IN ADULT, CONTINUING EDUCATION AND EXTENSION**

The University Grants Commission in its communication (vide D.O. Lr. From the Secretary, UGC. No. F-1-1/92 (NFE) dated 28th May, 1992) to the University urged the University authorities to start courses in Adult, Continuing Education and Extension as part of its Revised Guidelines for Adult Education. So as per the UGC guidelines,
the Department of Adult, Continuing Education and Extension had to shift its emphasis from field work to academic work by way of running a need based M.A. course in Adult, Continuing Education and Extension.

The need for the course can hardly be exaggerated. Both the Central and State Governments have laid great emphasis on Adult Education by establishing National Literacy Mission (NLM). The UGC has also entrusted universities and colleges with the responsibility of contributing their mite to the eradication of illiteracy. The Central and the State Governments are introducing innovative schemes like Education for Child Development.

There are National and State Directorates of Adult Education to provide technical support to Adult Education, national institutions (National Institute of Adult Education (NIAI), National Institute for Educational Planning and Administration (NIEPA), National Council for Educational Training and Research (NCERT)) etc., and State Resource Centres for Adult Education, District Resource Units etc. (which are dealing with planning, administration, training, research and evaluation of Adult Education/literacy/Post-literacy/continuing education programmes). All these institutions need trained adult/continuing/extension educators to provide effective guidance and direction to the programmes that are launched from time to time.

Further, under the Continuing Education Scheme, permanent institutions such as continuing education centre at the village level, and a nodal continuing education centre for 8 - 10 centres are to be established. To man these centres, these will be preraks and nodal preraks. Nodal preraks are expected to visit the Continuing Education Centres, provide guidance in organising income-generating and quality of life improving programmes for neo-literates, etc. To meet that particular demand, we need trained man power in adult, continuing education and extension.
Thus there is a good deal of demand for M.A. in Adult, Continuing Education and Extension and those who get the Degree can hope to get suitable avenues of employment/self-employment.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE COURSE

A new, unconventional course - M.A. in Adult, Continuing Education and Extension - was started in Sri Krishnadevaraya University, Anantapur in the academic year 1994 - 95. This course is the first of its kind in the entire country laying equal emphasis on (a) Adult Education, (b) Continuing Education, and (c) Extension. It aims at exposing the students to different dimensions of adult education, continuing education and extension education which are given top priority by the UGC.

The objectives of the course are:

1. to create human resources for scientific management and monitoring of extension programmes in various areas of development;
2. to produce extension educationists and scientists; and
3. to build knowledge base in the third dimension of higher education, i.e., extension, through teaching and research.

The two-year course is semesterised with a view to giving intensive instructions and teaching to students. The programme consists of 16 courses which are meaningful and relevant to the felt needs of the community. Admission is restricted to 25 students to provide for intensive interaction. The products of this new and socially relevant course are expected to be quite useful to themselves as well as to the community. Their self-employment opportunities are also expected to be bright.

Prof. M.J. Kesava Murthi, Vice-Chancellor of S.K. University, contributed much for the establishment of the Department of Adult, Continuing Education and Extension.
Dr. N.E. Bhagyavathi is doing her best for the growth and development of the Department.

2. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

The Department of Commerce was started in 1972 with one Reader and one Lecturer and with an intake of 40 students under the stewardship of Dr. D.P. Sharma. The University Grants Commission Committee which visited the department during the VI Plan expressed its satisfaction regarding the performance of the department and granted a few senior and junior level faculty positions. As a result the strength of the department had gone up to 11 in 1987 with 3 Professors, 3 Readers, and 5 Lecturers.

The department started a two year post-graduate course in Business Management in 1981 with specialisation in the area of Rural and Agricultural Management in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore. The composite Department of Commerce and Business Management was bifurcated in 1989. Till then, the post-graduate course in Business Management was nurtured by the Department of Commerce.

Apart from this quantitative expansion and development, the department had registered appreciable improvement qualitatively with the publication of a number of books and papers. Also, a number of research programmes, seminars, refresher courses and summer schools were organised by the department. So far 35 books, on Marketing, Human Resource Management, Research Methodology, Foreign Trade, Quantitative Methods, Banking, Co-operation, Communication etc., written by the faculty members have been published by different renowned publishers in the country. The department is also involved in writing books for Telugu Academy at the post-graduate level.

About 470 papers have been published so far in various reputed Indian Journals like 1) Indian Management 2) Personal Today. 3) Indian Journal of Industrial Relations,
4) Man Power Journal, 5) Foreign Trade, 6) Management Accounting, 7) Decision, 8) Nirnai. 9) Indian Co-operative Review, etc., by the members of the faculty, which testify to the constant endeavour made by the department in the field of research besides teaching.

Ever since the inception of the department, the faculty offered research guidance to eligible and enthusiastic full-time and part-time researchers and business executives. So far, the department has produced 50 Ph.D’s and 92 M.Phils. In the field of research the thrust has been on Banking, Transportation, Personnel Management, Financial Management, Foreign Trade Consumer Studies, Marketing, Small Scale Industry, etc.

Several major and minor research projects sponsored by the U.G.C., I.C.S.S.R., Government of India, and Government of Andhra Pradesh have been completed by the faculty members in the department. A few are currently being carried out by the faculty members. These include 1) Materials Management in State Road Transport undertakings 2) Small Scale Industrial Entrepreneurship in Rayalaseema, 3) Sickness in Public Sector Sugar Industry, and 4) Impact of A.P.S.F.C., on Small Industry Development.

The department organised a summer school for 30 days in May 1987 in a Advanced Research Methodology for college and university teachers and research scholars sponsored by the U.G.C. For the first time in the University, a Refresher Course in Commerce, sponsored by the U.G.C., was conducted in 1994. The second Refresher Course was organised in March, 1996 and the third Refresher Course in December, 1996. A one week Refresher Course sponsored by the I.C.S.S.R. was also conducted for college teachers in Commerce in May 1992. The department has also proposed to assist, and guide the prospective and present entrepreneurs in promoting, managing and monitoring the small industry and business. The department organised
national, international seminars, symposia, workshops, etc. The Department has undertaken consultancy work in

1) Consumer Protection and Awareness.
2) Consultancy to Small Industries
3) Consultancy to DPAP Sponsored by World Bank.

Special contribution of the Department:

1) Solved more than 2,000 cases relating to consumer grievances.
2) Started M.B.A. in 1984 which later emerged as a separate Department.

Though this department was a part of the Commerce Department of S.V. University. Prof. D.P. Sharma, who is the first Professor of this Department, took initiative for its growth and development. The department has so far got 470 articles published and produced 50 Ph.D.s and 96 M.Phils. The department has so far conducted 5 national seminars, 3 state level seminars and 7 refresher courses. “Smt. Tarimala Janakamma Gold Medal” is awarded every year to the student in who stands first in the M.Com. exams.

3. DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS

The Department of Economics was established in the year 1972. The department offers post-graduate degree in Economics. The student intake in the Course is limited to 30. M.Phil and Ph.D programme were introduced in 1972. The minimum intake for M.Phil is 22 and for Ph.D as per U.G.C. guidelines. The intake for Ph.D is subject to availability of vacancies with the Research Supervisor.

Now the department is well established with 5 Professors, 2 Readers and 4 Lecturers. The Department organised national/international seminar.
symposia/workshops, etc. The 74th Annual Conference of the Indian Economic Association was organised by the department in December, 1991.

**Special contribution of the department:**

1. A separate course in 'Applied Economics' was started in the academic year 1990 - 91.

2. The department has started imparting knowledge on quantitative techniques to post-graduate students both at the University college and at Kurnool P.G. Centre.

3. The thrust areas of research relate to the regional studies with special reference to the drought-prone Rayalaseema region.

4. The different research projects undertaken by the department of Economics relate to regional issues.

5. The Centre for Rayalaseema Development Studies (CRDS) since its inception 1987 has been concentrating on the studies relating to the socio-economic issue of the Rayalaseema region of A.P.

Though this department was a part of the Economics Department of S.V.University, Prof. Subbaramaiah, the first Professor in this department, took initiative for its growth and development. The department has so far 300 articles published and 36 Ph.D.s produced and 85 M.Phils.

"Sri. Y.S. Raja Reddy Gold Medal" is awarded every year to the student who stands first in Economics and "Sri. S. Subbaramaiah Gold medal" to the student who stands first in Applied Economics.

**4. DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY**

The Department of History was started in 1981. At present this department has one professor, two readers and 2 lecturers. The department offers post-graduate course in History. The students intake is 25. M.Phil and Ph.D programmes were
introduced in the year 1984. The minimum intake for M.Phil is 10 and Ph.D as per U.G.C. guidelines. The intake for Ph.D. is subject to availability of vacancies with the Research Supervisor. Prof. M. Abel contributed much for the establishment of the Department of History. Prof. M.X. Miranda was the first head of the department of History did his best for the growth and development of the department, and Prof. V. Vasantha with her efforts brought "Art and Archaeological Museum and Tribal/Folk Art Museum" to the department.

The department has so far got 125 articles published and produced 25 Ph.D.s and 30 M.Phils. The department is offers the M.A. course in History with Archaeology and Regional History as optionals. The department has been periodically modernising the syllabus so as to include recent development in History and Archaeology with special emphasis on the historical method of enquiry in to the new problems and with view to understanding, re-evaluating and re-interpreting the past, and being committed to social, cultural and normal values of the present Indian society. Field study/field work is an integral part of the prescribed curriculum of the Department.

The department organises research work leading to M.Phil and Ph.D. degrees in the following areas:

1. Regional studies - with special emphasis on socio-economic and cultural aspects.
2. Temple studies
3. Women studies
4. Tribal studies
5. Indological studies.
Art and Archaeological Museum

The department has established an Art and Archaeological Museum with a number of antiquities from in and around the district. This museum supplements the facilities of teaching.

Tribal/Folk Art Museum

A small size Folk Museum has been established to promote the preservation and development of tribal art and crafts and other facets of tribal culture. The museum also aims at the awareness of the richness of tribal/rural culture particularly among the urban educated people, so as to inculcate in them respect and admiration for various facets of Indian culture. The department organised the A.P. History Congress - in January 1995, and many community Development programmes.

Special contribution of the department

1. The department impressed upon the State Government to establish an Archival cell in the University, which has been of immense help to the researchers of social science faculties.

2. The Department is trying to have a permanent collaboration with the German counterparts in the field of chronological studies.

5. DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

INTRODUCTION

Library and Information Science (LIS) education is a professional education and it is a specialised area of human training. Accordingly, it has a concrete content and objectives in the same way as the training taken by teachers, chemists, doctors, engineers, management personnel, and industrial technicians. Librarianship and requires a mastery of the body of knowledge and techniques utilised in Library and Information
Science. The very range of technical options now available makes a closer link between the information industry and Library and Information Science schools is essential.

Further, the influence of Information Technology, Computer culture, multimedia, communication technology, Library Networks (INFLIBNET, EARNET, NICNET, -I-NET and INTERNET) demands Library and Information Science Education to provide a practical training in computer applications so as to produce quality library and Information Personnel to serve better the present and future information society.

GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE DEPARTMENT

Under the academic wing of the University Library, the LIS courses were started to impart training and develop information man power at all levels.

C.L.I.S.C. : It stands for “Certificate Course in Library and Information Science”. The Vice-Chancellor, Prof. M. Abel, and the Registrar Dr. K.C. Anki Reddy, motivated the library to utilise the qualified persons and run a certificate course in the year 1982. A committee was constituted by the University with Prof. M.R. Khumbhar and Sri. P. Kamaiah, and the C.L.I.S.C course was started in the academic year 1982.

B.L.I.S.C : The U.G.C. in its VI Plan Report, accorded permission to start the B.L.I.S.C course by utilising the services of qualified library staff of the University Library. Following this recommendation, the University in its Academic Council meeting dated 1.6.84 (Item No. 34) approved the proposal and appointed Dr. P. Kamaiah Head of the Department of Library and Information Science and authorised him to start the B.L.I.S.C course in the academic year 1984 - 85. This was approved in the syndicate in its meeting 27.9.84 (Res. 1 - 11).

Since no teaching positions were approved in the VII Plan period for the LIS courses, the three Library Assistants Grade - 1 who were handling the teaching work
were assigned full-time teaching to run the B.L.I.SC and C.L.I.SC courses (letter no. SKU/Estt/EEII/87 dated 18.11.87 of the Registrar).

M.L.I.S.C.: The UGC Mid-term Review Committee, at its meeting held on 14.2.1990, recommended that "it is desirable, to have an independent department of Library and Information Science with a staff of one Professor, one Reader and two Lecturers to begin with and "this would not only relieve the extra technology load on the library staff but would also enable the professional library staff to concentrate on the work in the library" (D.O.No. F-2-2/88 (co-ordination) dated 9.3.90 of the U.G.C.)

On 5.5.1990, the Planning and Monitoring Board recommended the starting of M.L.I.S.C course in the University. Based on this recommendation, an Expert Committee consisting of Prof. V.T. Naidu, Dean, Faculty of Arts, Prof. K. Siva Reddy, Department of Library and Information Science, Andhra University, and Prof. A.A.N. Raju, Department of L.I.S, Osmania University, was constituted to study the feasibility of starting the M.L.I.S.C course.

On 21.5.1990, Prof. K. Venkata Reddy, Vice-Chancellor, after attending the UGC meeting relating to VIII Plan proposals, informed the University that the UGC had formally accepted to provide one Professor, one Reader and one Lecturer to the Department of Library and Information Science during VIII Plan. As such, he took initiative in starting the M.L.I.S.C. course in anticipation of the sanction of positions formally approved by the UGC.

Consequently, then the Standing Committee of the Academic Senate, at its meeting held on 27.8.1990, approved the starting of the M.L.I.S.C course from the academic year 1990 - 91 (No. SKU/C2 Stand-Comm.Minutes/90 dt. 15.9.90 of the Registrar) and this was approved by the Academic Senate in its meeting held on
27.12.1990. Accordingly the M.L.I.S.C course was started in the academic year 1990 - 91.

M.L.I.S.C. (Two Summers) Course

Following a representation by the in-service librarians of degree and junior colleges that in view of the hardships faced by them in obtaining long-term leave and in the light of the large financial commitment it involved, the M.L.I.S.C course could be offered to them as a course of two summers duration.

A committee with the following members was constituted to study the feasibility of starting M.L.I.S.C summer course: 1) Prof. R. Seetharama Reddy, 2) Prof. T. Subbi Reddy, and 3) Dr. P. Kamaiah. The committee in its meeting held on 25.4.91 recommended the starting of the M.L.I.S.C (Two summers) course as a self-supporting course in May, 1991, following the same rules and regulations as there are for MP.Ed. summer course (No. SKU/C/Academic/91 dated 26.4.91). This is a unique attempt in the field of LIS education in India (though there was M.L.I.S.C summer course at Bombay, it is not run regularly as semester system as we planned).

Ph.D. in LIS

a. Dr. P. Kamaiah has also been permitted to be an external guide to supervise Ph.D. programme in LIS at Sri. Padmavathi Mahila Viswavidlayam, Tirupati from 1989 - 90 (No. SKU/88/E2 dt.23.9.90 of the Registrar) and Smt. D. Rajeswari, Assistant Librarian, registered for Ph.D. in LIS.


has to its credit 86 articles, and four books, and has produced two Ph.D.s and six M.Phils.

6. DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

The Department of Political Science and Public Administration was started in the year 1984-85. For about a decade the department offered M.A. in Political Science with a total strength of 25 students. Subsequently, during 1994-95, M.A. in Public Administration was introduced as an integrated course. In the first year there is a common syllabus for both M.A. Political Science and M.A. Public Administration. In the second year the class is divided into two sections viz., Political Science and Public Administration. The total intake in the first year under the new scheme is 25 in Political Science and 20 in Public Administration. In addition to M.A. in Political Science and M.A. in Public Administration, the Department offers M.Phil and Ph.D programmes.

There are about 30 Scholars in the department. So far about 10 Ph.D degrees and 20 M.Phil degrees have been awarded.

The members of the faculty have published a number of articles in leading scholarly journals besides publishing some books. All the faculty members are seriously engaged in research activity, particularly with the major research projects sanctioned by the UGC. The department also conducted a Refresher Course in Research Methodology and a National Seminar on New International Order. The department organised national, international, seminar, symposia and workshops.

Prof. M. Abel, the first Vice-Chancellor of S.K. University with his personal interest, started the department of Political Science, and Prof. Narayana as the first Professor and Head of the Department contributed his mite to the growth and development of the department. Later, under the headship of Prof. A.G. Naidu the
department started M.A. in Public Administration as a part of the department and
developed the department of Political Science and Public Administration.

The department has so far got 88 articles published, and produced 15 Ph.D.s
and 30 M.Phils. “Sri Idukallu Sadasivan Gold Medal” is awarded every year to the
student who stands first in Political Science.

7. DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL WORK

The Department of Rural Development was established in 1977 by the then
Autonomous Post Graduate Centre, Anantapur. The first Director of the Centre, Dr.
(Mrs) S. Shridevi, inaugurated the two-year inter-disciplinary post-graduate course
leading to M.A. in Rural Development on October 10, 1977. “Dr. S. Shridevi Gold
Medal” was instituted, to be awarded every year to the student who stands first in M.A.
Rural Development. The course has the distinction of being the first of its kind in
Andhra pradesh. Besides, the department has been offering courses allied to Rural
Development. M.A. in Sociology was started in 1981 - 82, and it became an
independent Department of Sociology in 1985. Master of Social Work (M.S.W) course
was introduced in 1990 - 91. In 1997, a gold medal was instituted in memory of
Dr. B. Nagabhushanam, who served as a Faculty member in the department from 1979
to 1989, to be awarded every year to the student who stands first in MSW. In addition
to teaching and research, the department conducted several training programmes of
short duration to rural development professionals from public and voluntary sectors.
The department produced 270 articles as on today.

Mission of the Department

The mission of the Department is to foster and sustain academic, research and
extension programmes to promote the quality of and increase the number of Rural
Development professionals with the object of improving the quality of rural life in India.
M.A. Rural Development: Objectives and Course Content

The objectives of the course are:

1. to impart professional training to young men and women desirous of making a career in the field of Rural Development;

2. to encourage inter-disciplinary and integrated approach for an in-depth understanding of the multifaceted rural problems;

3. to train the students in planning, executing, managing and evaluating the Rural Development Programmes;

4. to meet the professional requirements of the Rural Development agencies and organisations such as Government Institutions, Rural Credit and Banking Agencies, and Non-governmental Development Organisations;

5. to impart advanced training to the staff already engaged in Rural Development work;

6. to conduct and encourage interdisciplinary research in Rural Development.

The course is designed to cater to the needs of professionals in Panchayati Raj, DRDA and other Governmental and Non governmental Development Organisations involved in planning and executing rural development programmes. The course is run under semester system covering sixteen papers extending over different aspects of Rural Development such as Economic and Social Dimensions, Project Planning and Management, Credit, Marketing, Extension, Rural Energy and Appropriate technology. Besides classroom instruction, the students are exposed to rural realities through regular Field Work activity. The present intake is 25 students.

MSW: Objectives and Course Content

The main objective of the course is to train the students as professionals in Social Work by equipping them with knowledge and techniques in dealing with people and
their problems. The course has been designed to cater to the needs of professionals in the fields of Correction Work, Medical Social Work, Psychiatric Social Work, Family and Child Welfare, Labour Welfare, etc.

The course is run under semester system covering 16 papers extending over different fields of Social Work like Dynamics of Human Behaviour and Human Society, Social Work Intervention, Social Action and Change, Social Problems and Social Welfare, Correctional Social Work, Industrial Relations and Personnel Management, etc. Besides, the students are exposed to "social work practicum" that includes observational visits, case studies, working with groups and communities, working with Institutions and Block Placement. The present intake is 10 students.

**Output of P.G. Courses**

So far, about 152 students were awarded M.A. in Rural Development and about 40 M.S.W. The products of the department have been successful in securing jobs in Regional Rural Banks, Commercial Banks, National Level Research Institutes, Panchayati Raj and other Government Agencies and NGDOs. Further, three students have been successful in UGC NET examination (two in Rural Development and one in Social Work), while one student cleared the SLET examination in Economics.

**M.Phil/Ph.D. Programme**

The department offers research programmes leading to M.Phil/Ph.D in Rural Development as well as Social Work. So far, 29 persons have been awarded Ph.D and 68 M.Phil in Rural Development. Besides, one person has been awarded with Ph.D. and four M.Phils have been awarded in Social work.

**Research Projects, National Seminars and Workshops**

The department has undertaken a number of research projects sponsored by the ICSSR, UGC, State Planning Department, DRDA, DDP, District Forest Office,
ANSET, Anantapur, and other agencies. So far, the Department has executed 16 Research Projects. Presently five major research projects granted by the UGC focussing on Economics and Micro irrigation Systems, Women and Dairy Development, Production and Marketing of Oilseeds, Sustainable Development of Women through DWCRA, and Human Resource Development through Adult Education are under progress. Besides, the department has organised eight National/Regional Seminars and Workshops, covering a wide range of themes such as Rural Development Curriculum, Rural Youth, Employment Generation in Rural Sector, Ecological Problems of Drought Prone Regions and Facets of Rural Development, Tryst with 21st Century, and so on.

Achievements

The staff members have shown their mettle in research by publishing number of books and articles in reputed journals. Both the former professors of Rural Development, Prof. V.T. Naidu and Prof. K. Venkata Reddy were the recipients of the Best Teacher award instituted by the Government of Andhra Pradesh. Prof. Reddy served as Registrar of S.K. University and rose to the position of Vice-Chancellor, while Prof. Naidu held the position of Rector of S.K. University. Prof. Muralidharudu served as the Registrar of Nagarjuna University. The Department was instrumental in the formation of Rural Development Society at national level and Sociological Society at the state level. Besides, the staff members of the department are actively engaged in providing inputs in training, research and consultancy to various development agencies.

8. DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

Brief history of the Department

The Department of Sociology was started in the year 1985 as a separate department with one Reader and three Lecturers as the faculty. Today there are two Professors, three Readers, and one Lecturer in this department. The department offers
post-graduate degree in Sociology. The students intake is 25. M.Phil and Ph.D programmes were introduced in the year 1987. The minimum intake for M.Phil is 12 and for Ph.D as per U.G.C. guidelines. The intake for Ph.D is subject to availability of vacancies with the Research Supervisor.

Prof. M. Abel, the first Vice-Chancellor of S.K. University, with his personal interest, started the Department of Sociology, and Prof. V. T. Naidu, as the first Professor and Head of the Department contributed his mite for the growth and development of the department. The department has so far produced 12 Ph.Ds and 20 M.Phils. The department has so far got 90 articles published.

Three Minor Research projects have been completed. Three UGC major projects, two UGC minor projects are in progress. The department organised one regional seminar and one national seminar. Thrust areas are a) Social Demography b) Child Labour c) Horizon Studies d) Women, e) health and f) Education.

*Special contribution of the department*

Prof. G. L. Shekmani Naidu has been invited by the State Government to act as a district level Senior Resource Person at the Janmabhoomi community development programme which involved micro planning. He is an Advisory Member of the A.P. Forest Department Committee.

Prof. Ch. Uma Mohan is a Member of the State-level Committee on ‘School Education Reforms’, and Honorary Field Consultant to C.S.D. project. “Sri Paritala Hari Gold Medal” is awarded every year to the student who secures the highest marks in Sociology.