

**7.1.8 Describe the Institutional efforts/initiatives in providing an inclusive environment i.e., tolerance and harmony towards cultural, regional, linguistic, communal socioeconomic and other diversities (within 500 words).**

Response:

Centurion University believes in **unity in diversity**. Our campuses are **located in remote** districts of the country. Towards this, the University has pro-actively made efforts to **promote diversity**.

**Students from nine different countries**, religions, languages and cultures are encouraged to **take part in events across campuses**. This gives a feeling of **'home away from home'** for these students, in the campus and hostels. All the festivals are celebrated along with students from different cultural backgrounds. There is a multi-faith space created for students inside the campus.

Food is one of the important aspect of culture, is given high priority and food is provided according to their cultural beliefs and practices. The Food Kiosks on campus also cater to the palate of the diversity of students from within and outside the country. Inclusive spaces are created across the campuses for the students to meet and greet each other.

The University also promotes and supports students from different linguistic background by associating a suitable mentor to each student. This helps majority of the students from underprivileged backgrounds and alien culture to take the advantage and participate with other students in various activities.

Our campuses are **equipped with facilities** which are useful **for differently abled** people to study and work.

Regular gender sensitization programs and counseling sessions are conducted for the students, staff and faculty to create an inclusive environment across our campuses.

University takes utmost care when dealing with students in daily activities. Our admission policy also encourages **'inclusion'** to give preference to **students from rural and under-privileged backgrounds** in consonant with our vision and mission statement **'empowering communities'**. Every year University considers **fee concession** to students from **economically backward classes** (depends on case to case).

Faculty and Staff recruitment is also done in keeping in view linguistic diversity of students. Our staff takes care of any internal issues related to students or student groups. These issues are handled in a very sensitive manner keeping the socio-cultural background of students in mind.

There are also **common rooms and open spaces for students** to undertake their religious and co-cultural practices.

There is an '**Equal Opportunites Cell**' at the University which ensures equity among students related to provision of opportunities. The students are encouraged to voice their grievances and seek support from the Cell.

Centurion University has a '**Policy on Sexual Harassment: Prevention, Prohibition and Addressal**' in place, which discourages harassment of women in the campus and creates a fear free environment for them. Our University strives to create a fear free environment for all students both within the classroom and outside. Senior faculty and staff live on campus who regularly monitor any problems relating to living on campus and are ready to take action 24x7. There is a committee to look after this provision as per UGC guidelines.

This is one of the hallmarks of '**unity in diversity**' creating a campus life of **harmony and happiness**.