

**VIKRAMA SIMHAPURI UNIVERSITY**

**NELLORE - 524 320**

**2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Convocations Ceremony**



**Vice-Chancellor's Report**  
**Prof. R. Sudarsana Rao**

**Tuesday, January 21, 2020 at 15.30 hrs**

**Sri Venkateswara Kasthurba Kalakshetram**

**Dargamitta, Nellore**

**Sri Potti Sreeramulu Nellore District**

**ANDHRA PRADESH**

**Distinguished Chief Guest Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu garu, Honourable Vice-President of India**, respected Chancellor and Hon'ble Governor of Andhra Pradesh Shri Biswabhusan Harichandan, esteemed members of the Executive Council, faculty deans, faculty and University staff and officers, graduates, representatives of the Press and Electronic Media, respected guests, invitees, Ladies and Gentlemen. I deem it a great honour to welcome you all to this convocation of our University. It's a great pleasure, and indeed an honour to have our revered Chief Guest and Hon'ble Governor on this memorable occasion. I extend a warm welcome to all of you on this happy occasion of combined convocations of 2<sup>nd</sup> - 5<sup>th</sup> of Vikrama Simhapuri University, Nellore. Though there is no need of introduction about the two dignitaries on the dais, it is customary to briefly introduce them with their kind permission.

Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu garu was born in the year 1949 to late Shri Rangaiah Naidu and Late Shrimati Ramanamma at Chavatapalem, Nellore District, Andhra Pradesh. He is a graduate of V.R.College, Nellore and Law graduate of Andhra University, Visakhapatnam. He is an Agriculturist/Farmer, Political and Social worker and has held many coveted positions like Member of Parliament, Union Minister, Party National President, before becoming the Vice-President of India. Dear students, he is a source of inspiration to all of us and by his sincerity, honesty and hard work he rose to occupy many coveted positions starting off as President, Students' Union, V.R.College, Nellore and also Andhra University. Our Vice-President is always engaged in constructive work in the fields of agriculture, health, vocational education & training. The University of Costa Rica conferred honorary



doctorate on him for his contribution to the Rule of Law, Democracy, and sustainable Development.

Shri Biswa Bhusan Harichandan was born on 3<sup>rd</sup> August, 1934 as the second son of Late Parasuram Harichandan in a family of warriors and ruling tradition having a lineage of Harichandan dynasty of erstwhile Banpur Kingdom. A versatile genius, and an ardent fighter for the cause of Odisha and obtained his Honors degree in Economics and LLB. After earning high reputation in his legal profession, he came into lime light in politics by virtue of high morals, integrity and efficiency. As a Cabinet Minister, Government of Orissa, he was successful in handling all the portfolios and left indelible marks. The people of Odisha always remember his significant contributions to economic development, culture and the literature. He assumed charge as Hon'ble Governor of Andhra Pradesh on 24<sup>th</sup> July, 2019.

I take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the Honourable Governor of Andhra Pradesh and Chancellor of Vikrama Simhapuri University for giving me an opportunity to serve this University as Vice-Chancellor and contribute to the progress of Higher Education in this State.

I wish to present a brief report on the major activities and achievements of this University in the last five years with a focus on the last academic year, 2018-19.

Vikrama Simhapuri University was established on 25<sup>th</sup> June 2008 in Nellore, SPS Nellore District, Andhra Pradesh. The Post-Graduate Centre, Kavali with 77.8 acres campus, established in 1979 was transferred to Vikrama Simhapuri University by

Government of Andhra Pradesh on 6<sup>th</sup> January, 2011. There are 111 affiliated colleges in the University Jurisdiction.

The University has been functioning from its own campus at Kakutur in Venkatachalam Mandal since March, 2017. Strong foundations were laid down by my predecessor Vice-Chancellors Prof. C. R. Visweswara Rao, Prof. G. Rajarami Reddy and Prof. V. Veeraiah during the period 2008 to 2018. I have been putting my best efforts to develop this University in all facets of academic and research to achieve the objective of excellence since I assumed charge on 26<sup>th</sup> July, 2018. The First Convocation was held on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2014 and Dr. V. Bhujanga Rao, Chairman, DRDO was the Chief Guest cum Orator.

### **Courses and Faculty:**

The University has grown from six regular Departments to 17 Departments besides having self supporting courses like Commerce, Applied Mathematics, Statistics, Education, English, Telugu and Computer Science. Besides 24 regular courses in Physical Science, Life Sciences, Social Sciences and Management, the University is offering 5 Diploma Courses viz., PG Diploma in Fire and Industrial Safety (PGDFS), PG Diploma in Environmental Health and Industrial Safety (PGDEHS), PG Diploma in Port Operations and Terminal Management (PGPOTM), Diploma in Journalism, Diploma in Translation, and Diploma in Aquaculture. The University is also offering a certificate course in Gandhian Studies free of cost since 2018. There exists three Faculties in the University - Faculty of Arts, Faculty of Commerce and Management and Faculty of Sciences. There is a proposal to start locally and regionally relevant PG courses in the next academic year.

At present the teaching programme is run by 43 regular faculty, 37 Academic Consultants, and 31 Guest Faculty. The entire examination process, except valuation of scripts, has been digitalized. During these five year period as much as 55,428 students completed their courses in the University as well as through its affiliated colleges.

The faculty are academically active and have been pursuing Research in the subjects of their interest. So far, 45 National Seminars / Conferences / Workshops and Symposia and 4 International Seminars were organized in the University.

Prof. P. Venkata Rao and Prof. M. Chandraiah, Dept. of Commerce, VSU PG Centre, Kavali received the A. P. State Best Teacher Award for meritorious teachers during the year 2014 and 2015. I am happy to inform that Prof.N.R.Venkata Ramana Reddy recently has been appointed as Registrar, Rayalaseema University, Kurnool.

#### **Research Activities:**

The Ph.D Programme has been offered in 13 Departments since 2010. As many as 143 full time scholars and 76 part time scholars were admitted and so far 56 full time scholars and 40 part time scholars successfully completed and awarded Ph.D Degrees. As many as 28 full time research scholars have been awarded research fellowships by various agencies like UGC, CSIR, DST, ICSSR etc., I am happy to inform that the faculty have been sanctioned research projects worth of more than 5 crores. In addition, the Biotechnology Department has been sanctioned 78 lakhs for FIST – DST programme for a period of five years. In



order to share the research findings and with an objective to disseminate the same to the larger public, University has launched a new platform “University Research Forum” on 16<sup>th</sup> November, 2018. I am very happy to inform that the Department of Biotechnology recently has been equipped with advanced laboratory equipment worth of 50 lakhs imported from USA. I am proud to inform that this is the only University in Andhra Pradesh having such kind of equipment and the Department is hopeful of getting patent rights for its research work shortly.

The University has strong industrial linkages and has undertaken MOUs with five industries and enterprises.

The University organized University – Industry interaction workshop on 14<sup>th</sup> February, 2018 and in view of the overwhelming response and its usefulness, the University has decided to organize such an interactive workshop every year on 14<sup>th</sup> February.

Besides International Linkages with Universities in UK and Australia, the interaction developed by my predecessors, I visited Malaysia along with the HRD team during 29<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2018. The University has undertaken MOUs with the Lincoln University College, Malaysia (May, 2018), University Kabangsaan, Malaysia (30<sup>th</sup> October, 2018) and Millennium University, Malawi (30<sup>th</sup> March, 2019) to promote exchange of faculty and students for academic studies in the identified subjects and to undertake mutually beneficial research collaborations. In this connection a Centre for International Academic and Research Studies has been established in the University.

**Infrastructure facilities:**

Right now the University has a central Administrative Building (Sri Potti Sriramulu Bhawan), one academic Block (Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam Building), Pinakini Men's hostel and Swarnamuki Women's hostel and a Seminar Hall (Sir C. V. Raman Seminar Hall). A proposal has been sent recently under Sri Babu Jagjeevanram Chatravas Yojana for the construction of Second Floor of Ladies Hostel, ladies waiting hall and a Coaching Centre for SC/ST and BC students and research Scholars. The University has also facilities like video conferencing system, CC Camera Surveillance, Mobile Post Office and State Bank of India Branch. To overcome the water problem in the University, efforts are being made to get water supply from the Municipal Corporation, Nellore for which a Detailed Project Report is being prepared. Government of Andhra Pradesh has allocated Rs. 16.58 crores block grant, Rs. 20 crores capital grant and Rs. 1 crore for maintenance expenditure during 2019-20. New proposals worth of about Rs. 30 crores are under consideration of the Government.

**Distinguished Visitors:**

Senior Scientists, academicians, Vice-Chancellors of State Universities and senior faculty and Vice-Chancellors of University from abroad visited for academic and research purpose.

The University is actively associated as Member in Association of Commonwealth Universities, London, UK and Association of Indian Universities, New Delhi.

### **Student Support Services:**

I am happy to inform that Vikrama Simhapuri University is a ragging free University. The University has been trying to provide all student support services. Study tours in the concerned departments have been resumed since last academic year. APSSDC sanctioned three skill development units in 2018. The University has established a Centre for Skill Development under which three programmes were conducted during 2018-19. University has also made a tie-up with IIT, Mumbai for online software tutorials with free of cost certification last year with a view to enhance the soft skills of the students. It is proposed to organize Inter Collegiate Youth Festival, for the first time, in Vikrama Simhapuri University in September, 2019 in both cultural and literary events. Various facilities relating to medical, grievance redressal, transport are being provided. A Legal Aid Cell has also been launched in the University in December, 2018.

13 Gold Medals have been instituted by philanthropic donors in different subjects to be awarded to meritorious students. 159 students were awarded Prathibha Awards. The UGC-Student Induction Programme was organised in August 2019 in compliance with the directive from University Grants Commission, New Delhi.

### **Welfare Measures:**

There are about 171 supporting staff in various cadres and categories. Of the total supporting staff 53 are in the regular category. The University has been extending Education, Marriage and Vehicle Loans at subsidised rate of interest to its employees. The University has been financially supporting the employees Synd



Arogya Insurance Scheme covering the entire family. Recently a Mutually Aided Cooperative Building Society has been established for providing houses / plots to the members of the society with the cooperation of district administration.

#### **NSS Activities:**

At present the NSS Cell has a strength of 11,000 volunteers which is spread over 92 colleges and 110 units. There are 3 NSS units in the Main Campus and one at P. G. Centre, Kavali. The NSS Cell of VSU has been undertaking varied programmes relating to health, environment, conservation of natural resources, leadership, Literacy and several kinds of awareness programmes specially among youth and rural population. Dr. K. Ramesh Reddy, Dr.R.Prabhakar and Dr.Udayshankar Allam got awards for their best performance at National, State and District level respectively.

#### **Sports:**

The University has 10 acres of land allotted exclusively for undertaking sports activities and right now moderate facilities are available to play both indoor and outdoor games. Every year the University organises Inter Collegiate Tournaments and Athletic meets and sponsors the winners in South Zone and at the National level. The University has organized South Zone Inter University Table Tennis tournament for Men and Women for the year 2015-16. I am happy to inform that the University has been under active consideration for Khelo India programme by the District Administration for which we are thankful to them.

### **Extension and Outreach activities:**

The Social Science Departments particularly the Social Work Department has been undertaking several extension activities in association with the University NSS Cell. With a view to establish the link between the College and the Village several programmes have been organized to sensitise rural people especially women and youth. It is decided by the University to adopt some villages to undertake extension activities by the students and faculty.

### **Various Centres**

There are different centres or cells in the University like the Grievance Cells for different social groups like OBC, Women, SC/ST Grievances, Disciplinary Committee, IQAC etc. In addition, the University established several Centres recently. These centres will help to improve the governance and to achieve the objectives of development and social justice.

Under the clean and green programme on the campus, the University has undertaken a massive plantation programme in association with the Social Forestry Department, Nellore. As many as 64,800 saplings of 12 varieties were planted in an extent of 5 acres land adopting the Akira Miyawaki Japanese method. Students Green Clubs have been formed to nurture the green cover which enhances the survival rate of the plants.

### **Conferring Degrees**

A total number of 18,738 candidates registered for taking degrees in this convocation. Out of these 16,044 Graduates are

conferred in absentia. 711 Postgraduates who studied in the University are conferred Degrees In-Person and 1925 Postgraduates are conferred their degrees In-Absentia. Out of the total number of 38 Ph.Ds awarded by the University during 2014 – 18 and conferred in this convocation, 36 candidates have already taken In-Advance and 02 candidates are conferred In-Person. 60 Gold Medals in various disciplines instituted by philanthropists are given in this Convocation. I wish to congratulate all the Gold Medal Awardees and thank the donors.

### **Acknowledgements**

I am very confident and hopeful that this University will make good strides in its progress by exploiting its maximum potential with the cooperation and commitment of the Faculty, Students, Research Scholars and staff of the University, the continuous support of the Government, the Chancellor, the support of various funding agencies and the encouragement and support of the enlightened and philanthropic people of Nellore District.

On behalf of the University and on my own behalf I express my grateful and sincere thanks to Honourable Vice-President of India, and the Chief Guest for kindly accepting our invitation and for delivering a motivational Convocation Address. Sir I am sure that your gracious presence and the convocation address will always be remembered by the graduates and definitely will help them in shaping their careers.

The entire University is grateful to our Hon'ble Governor and the most respected Chancellor of our University for his gracious presence, for the valuable message and for the consent to hold the convocations. I am grateful to the Hon'ble Chief Minister of



Andhra Pradesh Sri Y.S.Jagan Mohan Reddy and the Hon'ble Minister for Education Sri Audimulam Suresh and other Government officials for their cooperation in the development of the University. I am thankful to all the members of Executive Council, Faculty Deans, staff of the University for their Constant Cooperation in the conduct of the convocation. I am thankful to all the representatives of Press and Electronic Media for their cooperation and good coverage of the University activities. I thank everyone who have either directly or indirectly helped in the smooth conduct of the convocation and making the event a grand success.