

## JNTUA XIII Convocation 06-01-2024

### REPORT OF THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

**Prof. G. Ranga Janardhana**  
**Vice-Chancellor**



His Excellency Governor, State of Andhra Pradesh and Chancellor, Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University Anantapur, Shri Justice S. Abdul Nazeer, Special Guest of Honor, Hon'ble Minister for Education, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Shri Botcha Satyanarayana, today's Chief Guest cum orator, Prof. Vegesna Satyanarayana Raju, former Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, the recipient of Honoris Causa Dr. K. Balaveera Reddy, former Vice-Chancellor, Visvesvaraya Technological University, Belagavi, Rector, Registrar, distinguished Members of the Executive Council, University Officials and Directors, dear Principals of Constituent and Affiliated Colleges, Invited guests, beloved Faculty members and Non-teaching staff, benevolent Donors of Endowment Gold Medals, exemplary Alumni of this ever towering University, brand new Graduating students, Recipients of the Degrees, Gold Medal winners, their delighted parents and family members, Members of Print and Electronic Media and other special invitees assembled here at the XIII Convocation and those joining us from the length and breadth of the globe through the webcast of this academic fiesta and a host of distinguished Ladies and Gentlemen!

#### **A very happy Morning and Namasthe!**

I feel honored to extend a warm welcome to the vast galaxy of luminaries present here for the promising event of the Thirteenth ceremonial Convocation of the Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University Anantapur.

As we stand on the precipice of a new chapter, let us reflect on the milestones achieved, the challenges overcome, and the boundless potential that awaits our graduates. On behalf of the JNT University Anantapur, I offer my heartiest congratulations to the recipients of Gold Medals, the graduating students, and their delighted parents, family members, and teachers. Our alumni have made outstanding contributions at both national and international levels and are of great support to their *alma mater*. I welcome them once again and wish them all the best!

**"In the tapestry of education, convocation is the vibrant thread that weaves together the accomplishments of our students, the dedication of our faculty, and the vision of our institution."**

Of the 86,142 Degrees being given away in the ongoing Convocation, 68,963 are Under-Graduate, 15,805 are post-graduate, 1109 are Doctor of Pharmacy and 265 are Ph.D. In this Convocation, 10142 Degrees are being presented, and the remaining are "Post and Pre-Convocation" Degrees.

From among the 71 Gold medals being presented this year for the Academic Years 2021-22 & 2022-23, 4 are awarded to the post-graduate students and 67 are awarded to the Under-Graduate students for having scaled terrific academic heights in various disciplines who deserve dozens of congratulations. I am glad to bring on board that of the 71 gold medals announced, 43 are bagged by the women students representing the Nari Shakti of our University. I must make a special mention of Kum. Dasari Shanthi, a Civil Engineering student of the College of Engineering Anantapur for clinching the lion's share of 8 gold medals. My hearty greetings are to her and wish that she shall be inspirational to the student community at large.

**"As we confer degrees today, we don't just hand out diplomas; we bequeath a responsibility to contribute meaningfully to society, to innovate, and to be lifelong learners."**

The JNT University Anantapur saw the light of day in the year 2008 through A.P. Govt. Act No. 30. Under its expansive jurisdiction, nine districts viz., Ananthapuramu, Sri Sathya Sai, Chittoor, Tirupathi, YSR Kadapa, Annamayya, Kurnool, Nandyala and SPSR Nellore fall. It has three constituent Engineering Colleges under its banner- one at Anantapur, the other at Pulivendula and the another at Kalikiri. It also operates a couple of specialised Units - Oil Technological and Pharmaceutical Research Institute & School of Management Studies located at Anantapur. In addition to these, the University is presently overseeing 134 affiliated colleges, of these, 70 are Engineering Colleges, 39 Pharmacy Colleges, 23 Stand-Alone MBA/MCA and 2 Integrated Colleges.

Among 72 Engineering Colleges (including integrated colleges) 35 institutions have been granted autonomous status, 17 institutions have been recognized under 2(f) and 47 institutions have been recognized under 2(f) & 12(B) status of the UGC, 45 institutions are accredited by NAAC and various programs offered by 25 institutions are accredited by NBA. Among 39 Pharmacy colleges 03 institutions have been granted autonomous status. As a part of Under-Graduate Programmes, the University offers a wide array of B.Tech. Courses with 32 Engineering disciplines, besides, B. Pharm. and Pharm. D. courses. It also offers 65 specializations under the sphere of Post-Graduate Programmes, that include, 44 M.Tech., 10 M. Pharm., 02 M.Sc., 9 M.B.A., M.C.A., and Pharm. D. (P.B.) courses. The University proudly boasts of its Research Programmes, for it has produced a lot of research-based output in 14 disciplines in the arenas of Engineering, Science, Pharmacy, Management and Humanities.

The University has consistently been progressing from strength to strength in the areas of infrastructure, collaborations and the likes of such academic engagements through its proven channels of administration such as Directorates of Academic & Planning, Evaluation, Academic Audit, Admissions, Industrial Consultancy Services, Research & Development, Foreign Affairs & Alumni Matters, Industrial Relations & Placements, Faculty Development, Directorate of Sponsored Research, Internal Quality Assurance Cell and Women Empowerment.

The University has floated designated Centers to impart certain requisite skills to students via the Software Development Centre, Skill Development & Incubation Centre and

Intellectual Property Rights Facilitation Center. The said centers are fully operational and have been yielding desired results.

The University has various dedicated Cells that cater to exclusive functions. Engineering Cell, NSS Cell, SC & ST Cell, OBC Cell, PWD Cell and Minority Cell that need a mention here. The Sports Council works smart for the promotion of sports and games in the University Colleges.

I am immeasurably delighted to set forth in brief the activities and achievements of the University since the last Convocation.

As the intelligentsia of the house is aware, the Government of India has brought in all-embracing reforms in the realms of education through the New Education Policy 2020. Curriculum revision in our University is a dynamic process that mirrors our commitment to staying relevant and responsive to the evolving needs of the academic and industrial landscape. Two major aspects of the NEP 2020 policy implemented by the university are flexible, broad-based curriculum comprising a core component and a multidisciplinary component in every program and allowing multiple exits within a program, to make education more student centric and needs-specific.

Some of the key points of R-23 curriculum revision are: Introducing mandatory three-week induction program at UG level, Enhancing the practical component at UG & PG level to facilitate practical skills, Introducing Universal Human Values, Environmental Studies, Design thinking for Innovation, Indian Constitution, Health and Wellness, Yoga and Sports and NSS/NCC/Scouts & Guides/Community Service as mandatory courses for the students of all disciplines, Introducing Research Methodologies and Intellectual Property Rights as a credit course at PG level, Ten-month mandatory internship in UG programme, Introducing *Community-based internships/projects* to instil a sense of social responsibility and cultural awareness in students, Skill oriented courses which are domain specific, inter-disciplinary & job-oriented, Flexibility in the curriculum for credit transfer through MOOCs as per the guidelines issued by UGC, Undergraduate degree either with Honours or a Minor is introduced for the students having good academic record, Exit option with a Diploma in the respective discipline at the end of 2<sup>nd</sup> year subject to satisfying the credit requirements is given to the student pursuing undergraduate degree, Exit option with a B.S. degree in the respective discipline at the end of 3<sup>rd</sup> year subject to satisfying the credit requirements, Exit option with a PG Diploma in the relevant specialization at the end of first year only subject to satisfying the credit requirements is given to the student pursuing postgraduate degree.

With enough force and conviction, I proclaim that the new age students enrolled recently will reap the benefits of the new education policy regime to the fullest.

The University has regularly been augmenting its infrastructural facilities from time-to-time. Such initiatives have improved academic, administrative, and extracurricular activities in a significant manner. Varied projects worth Rs. 254.0 crores are at different stages of implementation. The University has completed construction of the Integrated Lecture Hall Complex for the College of Engineering Anantapur, University Administrative Block, Pharmacy Block at Anantapur, Gym Hall, Yoga, and Meditation Hall at Anantapur, Boy's Hostel at Pulivendula worth Rs. 98 Crores. Construction of shed for university examination branch, building for Skill Development Center at College of Engineering

Anantapur, construction of new hostel Hampi at College of Engineering Anantapur, Dhyana Chand Indoor Stadium at Anantapur, have been undertaken at the cost of Rs. 23.14 crores.

The University exhibits highest priority in ensuring the welfare of students studying and living on the College campus. An international students' hostel and exclusive hostel for PG & Research Scholars are in the pipeline at a cost of Rs. 37 crores in the extended campus of the University. The construction of two new hostels one for boys and the other for girls at the College of Engineering, Pulivendula have been planned additionally at a cost of Rs. 19.0 crores. Keeping in view of the importance of sports in the all-round development of the students, the University has undertaken extensive development of sports infrastructure in all its Constituent Colleges as well.

The University envisions it being a model campus in terms of sustainability, usage of energy and water, and recycling of materials. Towards achieving a green and sustainable campus, the University has taken several initiatives such as the installation of solar streetlights, Solar Power Generation, the use of steam cooking at hostels, the construction of rainwater harvesting pits at college hostels, the use of LED lamps in place of CF lamps, extensive plantation of trees at all campuses. A new lawn with plantation is in the offing at the YSR memorial park at College of Engineering Pulivendula and Solar Street lights at College of Engineering Kalikiri.

The role of research projects in an academic institution is noteworthy for its sustainability and development. The quality of research work directly translates into the quality of teaching and learning in the classroom, which in turn benefits the students, the society, and the country. The University has floated a scheme for enhancing the research ecosystem and interest among young faculty members of the constituent colleges. Under this scheme, eligible research projects have been sanctioned upto Rs. 1.0 lakh per project. The aim is to create a research environment and extend support to the passionate young faculty members who have a flair for research.

In the dynamic landscape of our University, the achievements of our students stand as beacons of excellence, reflecting their commitment to academic prowess and holistic development. 137 companies have conducted recruitment drives at the Constituent colleges of the University during the academic years 2021-22 & 2022-23 providing lucrative placements to 1625 students. Mr.Md.Muzammil from Mechanical Dept., JNTUACEA has been placed in a company with the highest package of 44.21 LPA. The affiliated engineering & pharmacy colleges were visited by around 200 companies. A good number of students got placed in the drives organized. Further, a total of 95 students of various engineering disciplines of the constituent colleges have been qualified in GATE 2022 with good ranks. Mr. P. Jayanth Kumar Reddy of the EEE department, JNTUA CEP secured an All-India Rank of 12, and Ms. Geetha Charan of the CSE department, JNTUACEA has secured an All-India Rank of 15.

Sports and games play a vital role in a technical University, contributing to the overall well-being and holistic development of students. Beyond academic pursuits, participation in sports fosters teamwork, discipline, and resilience, essential qualities for success in any field. As the saying goes, "A healthy mind resides in a healthy body" This is evident from the excellent availability of sports facilities, holding sports meets, and encouraging and facilitating student participation in national and international level competitions. By virtue of such moves, the students have won many laurels by participating in various competitions held

across the country. 35 students of our college have represented South Zone and All India Inter University Tournaments in different Games & Sports from 01/02/2022 to 16/12/2023. JNTUA bagged Bronze medal in All India Inter University Pencaksilat (Women) Indoor Class Open Tanding weight category (85kg to 100kg) at Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar. Miss U. Gangotri of Narayana Engineering College, Nellore received this for the academic year 2022-2023

JNTUA is Awarded ISO Certification on Quality Management System for JNTUA, CEA, SMS & OTPRI 9001:2015; Gender Sensitization, Green Environmental Promotions-14001-2015; Energy Saving Practices-50001:2011 from 01.03.2021 to 28.02.2023 by HyM International Certifications Pvt. Ltd, Hyderabad and also Awarded ISO Certification on Educational Quality Management System for JNTUA, CEA, SMS & OTPRI 21001-2018; Information Security Management System – 27001-2013; Environmental Management System 14001-2015; Energy Management system-50001:2011 from 10.08.2023 to 09.08.2024 by HyM International Certifications Pvt Ltd, Hyderabad.

A prominent achievement worthy of the announcement is the accreditation of the Departments of Civil, EEE, Mechanical, ECE, CSE and Chemical of our constituent and campus college JNTUA CEA by the National Board of Accreditation for the period 2022-2025. The university has made a promising impact on national and international rankings. Some of them are:

- THE World University Rankings 2023:**1201-1500**
- THE World University Rankings- Young University Ranking 2022: **401+**
- THE World University Rankings-Asia University Ranking 2022: **401-500<sup>th</sup>**
- THE World University Rankings 2024:**801-1000**
- THE World University Rankings 2024 National Rank: **25/91 (1st in A.P)**
- QS Asia University Rankings 2022: 551-600
- QS Asia University Rankings 2023: 601-650
- QS Asia University Rankings 2024: 651-700 (India:100)
- QS Asia University Rankings 2024(Southern Asia): 204
- NIRF 2022 Ranking: Engineering: Rank-band: 201-250
- NIRF 2022 Ranking -University Rank-band: 151-200
- NIRF 2023 Ranking: Engineering: Rank-band: 151-200.
- CEA Civil & Chemical Engineering got NBA accreditation from 2022-23 to 2024-25.
- JNTUA Awarded Green Audit Certification Validity January 2024 by Greenvio Solutions
- JNTUA Awarded Environment Audit Certification Validity January 2024 by Greenvio Solutions

Gradually, we are escalating the involvement of alumni in all aspects of the development including interacting with students, mentoring, contributing resources towards enhancing the facilities and quality of education and collaborating with faculty members in research and development. Innovation laboratories are being established in the university with the support of alumni to enhance the innovation ecosystem.

In a major initiative, state government has roped in Microsoft to take up skill development training for the college students and unemployed youth in the state. Microsoft has agreed to provide training to about 1.62 lakh students in the coming one year. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed. This first-of-its-kind partnership aims to provide a holistic skilling solution, empowering the youth of the state with next generation digital skills. Microsoft will collaborate with higher education department to

create a scalable skilling experience that includes access to learning content on Microsoft's learning resource centre, Microsoft Learn, educational webinars, experiential learning through hands-on lab exercises and industry certifications courses from Microsoft and LinkedIn,"

JNTUA has successfully conducted the state level examination of Andhra Pradesh Engineering and Pharmacy Common Entrance Test (APEAPCET) 2022 & 2023 on behalf of Andhra Pradesh State Council of Higher Education (APSCHE). I am confident that JNTUA will continue the success story of conducting state-level entrance examinations.

The achievements of our faculty are a testament to their dedication, expertise, and contribution to the academic and professional spheres. The University has provided a conducive environment for faculty and staff to showcase their skills. Recently, the university instituted Best Teacher, Best Principal, Best Coach (Physical Director), Best NSS Officers and Best Woman Coordinator Awards to recognize the merit and hard work of its faculty working in the constituent and affiliated colleges.

The hallmarks of our technical prowess lie in, Ph.D., pursuits, projects, patents and innovations. Thomas Edison's words, "There is a way to do it better – find it," resonate as our researchers and students push boundaries, contributing to advancements that shape the future. Our constituent college faculty have received two projects worth Rs.49,43,982/- and many projects are ongoing. 16 patents have been granted and 35 patents have been published. The faculty members of the constituent and affiliated colleges have published over 2000 papers in National/International Journals and more than 1000 papers in National/International Conferences that mirror the penchant for research of our teachers. Many of our faculty have authored and translated textbooks and received several awards, distinctions, and appreciations.

The faculty members of Affiliated and Constituent units have organized many activities attracting a large number of participants from all over India by organizing more than 1000 workshops, webinars, FDPs and conferences at national and international level. Further, faculty members have participated in. It is difficult to describe all the achievements in the time available. All achievements are noteworthy and deserve praise.

The University has conducted CAS interviews and promoted 12 faculty members as Professors and 16 faculty members as Associate Professors in the last year and has issued fresh notification by inviting applications from the eligible faculty members for CAS promotions. Further, 17 Non-Teaching staff are promoted in the last year and also various appointments are made under compassionate grounds.

The NSS embodies service and discipline. It also promotes the spirit of leadership, team skills, and instills values. The University has 113 Regular NSS units operating at various Constituent and affiliated colleges spread over Anantapur, Chittoor, Kurnool, SPSR Nellore, and YSR districts of Andhra Pradesh. There are 11,300 NSS volunteers on rolls. The NSS units are very active and have conducted 92 special camps each of 7 days duration at various villages; 51230 samplings were planted by NSS volunteers; 114 blood donation camps were organized, and 8320 blood units are collected; 63 health awareness programs were conducted; 132 health checkup camps and awareness programs were conducted covering more than 16440 beneficiaries; 16 Mega Eye checkup camps were organized at various villages.

The University successfully organized various programmes under Meri Mati Mera Desh, Swachhata Hi Seva and completed one lakh registrations in Viksit Bharat @ 2047.

JNTUA for the second and third time instituted the Best Teacher, and Principal Awards and this time included Best NSS Officers, Best Woman Coordinator and Best Coach (Physical Director) Awards to recognize the outstanding contributions of some of the finest teachers in the constituent and affiliated colleges of the university.

Before I conclude, I would like to place on record our heartfelt gratitude to His Excellency Governor of Andhra Pradesh and Chancellor of Jawaharlal Nehru Technological University Anantapur, Shri Justice S. Abdul Nazeer Garu, for attending the Convocation. The Hon'ble Governor has boosted our morale by constantly encouraging and supporting us to reach out to greater academic heights.

Words cannot express our gratitude to the Hon'ble Minister for Education, Government of Andhra Pradesh, Sri Botcha Satyanarayana Garu, for his untiring efforts in bringing extensive reforms in the state in the realms of education.

I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to the illustrious Chief Guest Prof. Vegesna Satyanarayana Raju, former Director, Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi for accepting our invitation to be the chief guest of this 13<sup>th</sup> Convocation and delivering the convocation address.

I sincerely thank the recipient of Honoris Causa, Dr. K. Balaveera Reddy Garu, Former Vice-Chancellor, Visvesvaraya Technological University, and Belgaum as well as a distinguished alumnus of this institution for coming here in person in spite of his busy schedule and accepting the Honoris causa.

I profusely thank the members of the Executive Council, University Officials, Directors, Principals of constituent and affiliated colleges, teaching and non-teaching staff, students, print and electronic media, and the eminent assemblage in this auditorium for their majestic presence and for rendering their support in making this event happen on a grand magnitude.

Concluding my speech, I would like to quote a Sanskrit sloka from Buddhist scripture Dhammapada:

“विद्या ददाति विनायाम्  
विदुषां विदुषां विदुषां विदुषां  
विदुषां विदुषां विदुषां विदुषां  
विदुषां विदुषां विदुषां विदुषां”

“Vidya Dadaati Vinayam  
Vidnyad Yaati Patrataam  
Patratvaat Dhanamaapnoti  
Dhanat Dharmah Tathah Sukham”

which means that Education leads to humility; with humility comes recognition and worthiness; from recognition one gets money and the money shall be used to do good deeds

leading to happiness. I urge upon all the students to follow this simple yet profound saying that emphasises the ultimate purpose of education and knowledge.

*I thank everyone for being with us on this fine day, it's been a great pleasure for being associated with you all. I thank You Very Much for rendering your time.*

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