

Profile of Prof PVGD Prasad Reddy, Andhra University

Prof.PVGD.Prasad Reddy is a Senior Professor of Computer Engg and an academic administrator. He has been serving Andhra University under various capacities and twice as its Vice Chancellor, he could spearhead repositioning of Andhra University by converging with industry and its latest trends, while exploring new models to challenge the status quo encouraging the departments to innovate, invest and transform.

Andhra University has achieved numerous significant milestones and accomplishments during Prasad Reddy's, two times tenure as Vice chancellor from 2019 July to 2024 July. Some of the key highlights include:

- Attaining a historic NAAC Grade A++ with a **CGPA of 3.74 out of 4.0**, making it the highest among the **top 3** universities in India.
- Establishing '**a-Hub**', an Incubation and Startup Centre with **151 Startups**, which received a 4 Star Rating from MHRD and banded among top NIRF rankings.
- Establishing (**16**) Industry Sponsored **Research Chairs** for the first time in universities history with support from various industry partners, such as Navaratnam companies IOCL, and RINL, HPCL, GMR, IPR Chair, Kumar Raja Infra, American corporates such as Uynite Inc, etc.
- Obtaining the '**Green University**' award from **COP-28 UN**, Dubai and scored **26,860 Tons of Carbon Credits** in 2023.
- Obtaining '**IP Excellence Award**' from ASOCHAM, Delhi in 2023 for surpassing 150 Patents through IPR Chair on the AU campus.
- Achieving the **6th Rank in "SodhGanga"** for AU Central Library and digitization of **2.5 Lakh Old Palm Leaves**.
- Establishing 'American Corner' and 'Western Australian Corner' on the university Campus through Embassies.
- Establishing state of the art genetic research centre by name '**bio-Arbor**', a Medical Genetics Research Center with financial support from RINL Visakhapatnam, the Vizag Steel Palnt.
- Establishing a unique '**A.U. - STPI innovation hub**' with Rs. 59 Cr support from Software Technology Park of India in three phases. The first phase investment Lol for Rs 19 Cr, is received by A.U.

- Establishing '**AU-AVANTI**', a Marine International Prawn and Fish farming skill centre with financial support to a tune of Rs 15 Cr CSR, from AVANTI Group an international exporter of sea foods from India.
- Establishing '**AU-NASSCOM**', Centre of Excellence in Machine Intelligence & IOT with 27 Cr support from Gol.
- Establishing "**ELEMENT**", a unique Pharma Incubation & Product Testing, bio-monitoring hub on the campus partnering with MNC Pharma Industry.
- Establishing a 'Food Testing and Standardization' Laboratory with Rs. 5 Cr support from AP Food Society.
- Creating the '**AU Digital Zone**' an IT Building named "Algorithm" with state-of-the-art teaching class rooms, labs and seminar halls.
- Establishing '**AU-SIB**', a new School of International Business to promote international business programs under an exclusive MOU with '**IIM-Visakhapatnam**' attracting foreign students from 59 countries.
- Establishing 'AU-Mahabhodi', an International Mekapati Gowtham Reddy Buddhist **Meditation Centre** at AU with a support of Rs. 3 Cr from Mahabhodi Buddhist Society, Bangalore through a Philanthroper.
- Establishing world class Dolby Atmos International Studio with MOU from Saint Lukes, as indicated in NEP-2020 to impart skills in Music and Sound engineering , Theatre for the first time to the students of AP.
- Initiating new online PG and UG courses and increasing the strength of the School of Distance Education from a mere **15,800 in count to a massive record of 85,000 students** in 2024, thus contributing to enhancement of GER as desired under NEP 2020.
- Attracting through novel initiatives and increasing the count of **foreign students to above 1000** from 59 countries which not only enhanced the visibility of AU in global platforms and also increased its internal revenues.
- Remodeling and renovating the historic '**Erskine Square**' open-air theatre to promote theatre arts as indicated in NEP 2020.
- Establishment of a new hostel block for AU Women Engineering College students with Rs. **5 Cr, CSR support** and built by vizag based company **SAL-PG**.
- Creation of the 'Moksha Gundam Viswesrayya Hostel' for 200 engineering students with Rs. **4 Cr built by AU Engineering College alumni**.

- Establishment of new labs in the Chemistry department, and Pharmacy with Rs. 3 Cr support from an alumnus from USA by name Mr.Deva Puranam.
- Establishment of the '**AU Bio Diversity Heritage Centre**' on a 7.5-acre farm with support from Min of Forests and BSI India.
- Collaboration with the Ministry of Heavy Industries (MHI, Pune) to establish an Industry 4.0 Lab, By name "c4i4" with Rs. 2 Cr funding at A.U. College of Engineering.
- **Re-claiming position of Main road facing 2.6 acre encroached land, worth Rs 300 Cr at the Polamamba Temple Area** of viskhapatnam.
- Renovation & Remodeling of the collapsed Ambedkar Hall in AU Engineering College during Hud-Hud , under the Theme 'Gautham Buddha'.
- Improvement of roads estimated Rs. 2.5 Cr, on campus directly with **kind philanthropic support** from Vizag based Pharma and Logistics companies.
- Renovation of the erstwhile '**AU Yoga Centre**' on beach road to promote yoga and naturopathy with Philanthropic support.
- Revamping of syllabus and '**iT-Fyed**' all the core branches by way of introduction of industry-relevant subjects and Topics such as 'Machine Intelligence', IOT, 'Green Chemistry 'Finance for all' and IPR.
- Introduction of Professor of Practice (PoP), Adjunct Professors and other professorial roles as recommended in NEP 2020 policy.
- Introduction of a Placement culture along with **honoring parents by their children while receiving placement orders**, on campus constituent colleges including Law, Arts and Education colleges along with Engineering and Science. For the first time in AU History, placement culture witnessed huge numbers including LAW, all ARTS programs and science departments such as Botany, and Zoology.
- Initiation of MoU's with Defence institutions to establish a '**School of Defence Studies**' which is a unique concept appreciated by the GoI to support the academic progression of military personnel and to provide access to second career/employment opportunities upon retirement/resettlement. AU has become the first university to receive a call from Indian Navy to train "**Agniveers**" in 2023.
- Establishment of many **New Hostels and some of them are**
 - a) 'Mokshgundam Viswesrayya 'Hostel
 - b) 'AU Sathabdi Classic 'Hostel

- c) 'Bharat The G-20 Presidency', International Students Hostel,
 - d) 'Orange' Hostel for AU Engg
 - e) 'Meta.h" Hostel for AU Engg
 - f) 'Vidya Tarangini' for AU PG women.
 - g) "SAL-PG' for AU Women Engg
 - h) 'AU Pharmacy' Girls Hostels
- Renovation of the erst while 'AU administrative building' while preserving its legacy look. Also Renovated all academic wings of the entire campus to make them ready for Shatabdi Mahotsav (Centenary Celebrations)
 - Inspired the Student community on AU campus by inviting renowned industrialists like Mr.NR Narayan Murthy of Infosys, Mr.Natrajan Chandra Sekharan of Tata Sons, Dr.Pushpa Kumar Joshi, CMD of HPCL among many others luminaries.

These accomplishments have not only enhanced the infrastructure and facilities at Andhra University but have also contributed to its academic and research excellence during the journey towards centenary.

As a faculty of Computer Engg department, he has guided **57** (Fifty-seven) **Ph.D's**, published **246 Plus** journal articles, obtained **22** patents, authored **5** Books, Conducted/attended 11 Refresher/Orientation courses, **36** International Seminars/Conferences/National workshops and handled **8** Consultancy, Research projects, with h-index 20, contributing to academic growth of the department. He is fellow of Institution of Engineers, and various other Scientific bodies, editorial boards. He received, among other honors a Prestigious **D.Litt** degree in 2021 and a "Best Teacher award".