Prof James Stephen: A Beacon of Excellence

AU News, October: Prof M James Stephen, an ardent advocate of learning and transparency, has set remarkable milestones in the field of education and administration. With an unwavering commitment to his goals, he has consistently achieved exceptional success in diverse endeavours. In 2013, Mr. Stephen made history as the youngest principal of an engineering college, where his leadership paved the way for more than 2000 students to graduate with flying colours. This achievement solidified his reputation as a dedicated and visionary educator. Dedicating 14 to 16 hours daily to his work, Mr. Stephen’s mission is to help students secure covered seats in prestigious colleges within tight timeframes. His journey led him to actively contribute to initiatives such as AICTE and Central MHRD’s Smart India. He also mentored students for the All India Coding Competition conducted by MHRD, resulting in impressive victories in 2018, 2019, 2020, and 2021, with Andhra University consistently leading the way. His enthusiasm for challenges and a knack for success are underpinned by his strengths in multitasking, integrity, and character. Mr. Stephen’s educational journey has been marked by international exposure, including visits to esteemed institutions such as Harvard, NYU, MIT, Pennsylvania, and Stanford in the United States. He also played an integral role in the Indian Higher Education Delegation to the US. His interactions with teams from Indian universities on foreign soil further enriched his global perspective. As a speaker at the London Metropolitan University, he shared his insights, adding to

Yoga Village completes Four Decades in service of public
Mr. M. James Stephen served as an Executive Council Member, recognizing his expertise in policy-making and vision-driven leadership. Furthermore, the Government of India's Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment sponsored a national chair for Andhra University under UGC guidelines. Within just 10 months, Mr. Stephen conducted over 20 programs, serving as the national chair professor of B.R. Ambedkar. Reflecting on his journey, Mr. Stephen stated, "I have many such goals in mind as the AU Registrar, and I aspire to accomplish them. I am determined to continue working towards these objectives under his guidance."

The guidance of VC Prof. Prasad Reddy," Education has always been at the forefront. With a Telugu medium background, he pursued five postgraduate degrees and participated in 128 public exams, consistently securing the top ranks. His unwavering pursuit of excellence was evident from his early days as a student. His teaching career began in 2002, driven by his passion for imparting knowledge and nurturing talent. In a class where most chose IT careers, he stood out as the only student pursuing teaching. His time as a student, with limited computer science teachers, led him to attend and inspired by Prasad Reddy Sir's commitment to excellence. Mr. Stephen's academic journey includes an M.Phil. in Computer Sciences, an M.Tech., and a Ph.D. from Andhra University. He furthered his education with an MBA and completed HR studies at IGNOU. His interests expanded into diverse fields, including history, philosophy, religious studies, and theology. He was profoundly influenced by the words of Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan: "A great teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires." His dedication to teaching was evident in his daily routine, waking up at 5 AM to prepare for a one-hour lecture, symbolizing his unwavering commitment to his students. Mr. Stephen's teaching methods were marked by creativity, setting him apart from his peers. In 2011, he achieved the title of Associate Professor, subsequently ratified as a full Professor in 2017, eventually ascending to the role of Principal. Under his guidance, many individuals have reached the zenith of their careers, a source of immense pride for him. Prof. James Stephen takes over as additional charge as Registrar:

Prof. M. James Stephen, Dr.B.R. Ambedkar Chair Professor and Dean of Trans-Disciplinary Research Hub, took charge as additional charge as Registrar of Andhra University. Andhra University Vice Chancellor Prof. P.V.G.D.PrasadReddy congratulated the new Registrar Prof. James Stephen.

He served as the Principal of an Engineering College for more than 9 years. Currently serving as Dean for the past 10 months. He did his Ph.D. in Computer Science & Systems Engineering from Andhra University. He holds Master's degrees in various fields, including MCA, M.Phil.(CS), M.Div., M.B.A., and M.Tech.(CST). He holds 32 patents and copyrights, including nine national and international grants to his credit. He authored 11 books published by national and international publishers. He edited four volumes with unique ISBNs and published over 60 research articles in indexed and peer-reviewed journals with 159 citations. He has so far guided 10 Ph.D., M.Tech., and MCA research scholars. He has been awarded three major grants by the Government of India's Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment sponsored a national chair for Andhra University under UGC guidelines. Within just 10 months, Mr. Stephen conducted over 20 programs, serving as the national chair professor of B.R. Ambedkar. Reflecting on his journey, Mr. Stephen stated, "I have many such goals in mind as the AU Registrar, and I aspire to accomplish them. I am determined to continue working towards these objectives under his guidance."

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VC inaugurates Health Camp

AU News, October: Andhra University Vice-Chancellor Prof. P.V.G.D. Prasad Reddy emphasized the crucial role of a healthy society in national development. He inaugurated a free health check-up camp at AU Hospital, underscoring the importance of providing health services to employees and students of the university to safeguard their well-being. Prof. P.V.G.D. Prasad Reddy said that the foundation for national development lies in the health of its citizens. He recognized the significance of a healthy society as a prerequisite for overall progress and development. The conduct of a free health check-up camp at AU Hospital demonstrates the university's commitment to the health and well-being of its employees and students. Such initiatives aim to ensure that individuals have access to essential healthcare services. VC Prasad Reddy emphasized the importance of providing health services to the university's employees and students, indicating a proactive approach to maintaining their health. He underlined that the development of society can thrive only when the members of that society are healthy. Good health is a fundamental factor in enabling individuals to contribute effectively to the betterment of their community and the nation as a whole. Prof. T.Sobhasri, Mrs. A. Leelarani, Mrs. T. Rajini Kumari, Mr. T. Praveen Reddy, and others participated in the inauguration of the free health camp. The primary objective of the health camp is to provide medical tests to both students and staff, ensuring that they receive the necessary health assessments and support.

ICSSR Director visits AU

AU News, October: Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) Director and alumnus of Andhra University Mr. Y.Ramesh visited Andhra University and explained his happiness over the development and progress of Andhra University. He visited Department of Library and Information Sciences and Department of Politics and Public Administration. He explained about various research grants, post-doctoral and foreign travel and doctoral projects to the faculty of Andhra University. He visited AU Incubation Centre, AUSIB, ELEMENT, ALGORITHM. Later, he met Andhra University Vice-Chancellor Prof. P.V.G.D. Prasad Reddy and held discussions on various research developments. Prof. P.V.G.D. Prasad Reddy and Registrar Prof. M.James Stephen felicitated Mr. Ramesh on the occasion.

Happy to Join CSE

VC releases Girl Child Day Poster

AU News, October: AU News, October: Miss Vepa Lakshmi Sahasra Gayathri, who joined CSE Department said she is happy to be the student in Andhra University as it is a dream come true. She said I am not the first person to join in Andhra University to study. My mother Mrs. Vepa Uma Savitri, done three Master Degrees (all were from AU). She also done a job at IIT Delhi. Also, my grandfather worked in AU Administration Department, till his retirement. In addition to them, my relative, Mrs. Sowmya, Post Graduated from CSE in 2016. My uncle (father’s brother) received his Mechanical Engineering Degree & Master in Business Administration. (MBA). Similar to this, several of my family members, studied from AU at one point or another and they are all extremely proud of being family of Andhra University, she proudly claims.

AU News, October: AU News, October: Vice Chancellor Prof. Prasad Reddy released the International Girl Child Day poster and acknowledged the efforts of girls in organizing an awareness rally to emphasize the importance of girls. Prof. Prasad Reddy praised the girls for their efforts in organizing an awareness rally. Recognizing and appreciating their initiative, he said it is important to encourage girl students to continue advocating for girls' rights and equality. Rotarian Modambika explained about an upcoming awareness rally scheduled for the 10th of the month. Such rallies are a common way to raise awareness about various social issues, including gender equality. It's mentioned that the pictures featured on the poster were drawn by the students themselves. This creative contribution by the students adds a personal touch to the event. The students were appreciated for their creativity, indicating that their artistic efforts were recognized and valued. Rotarian Vinay Gandhi, Razia Sultana Meena, and others, participated.
Gandhian Studies Centre holds International Conference on Gandhian Thought

AU News, October:
Prof. P.V.G.D. Prasad Reddy, Vice-Chancellor, Andhra University, inaugurated the two-day International conference on “Emerging Global Order: Relevance of Gandhian Thought” organized by Gandhian Studies Centre of Andhra University. Vice Chancellor Prof. P.V.G.D Prasad Reddy recalled the contributions of Gandhi, the campaigns he launched for the independence. Explaining the relevance of his philosophy in the present day society, he called on the youth to inculcate the moral values for the welfare of society. He called on the students and scholars to actively participate in the deliberations of the seminar. Prof. K. Sitamankyam, Director of the Gandhian Studies Centre explained the aims and objectives of the conference. She stated that around 150 papers were received for the conference and participants across the country are attended the event. The conference is being organised in hybrid mode. She said the 150 research papers were presented and discussed in eight technical sessions during the two days of the Conference. Prof. Benarjee Chakka, Dean, School of Law VIT, Vijayawada, spoke on Gandhian ideology and how the pandemic caused social economic inequalities globally and also highlighted strife between countries across the world. Gandhian principles of sarvodaya are relevant in the present global world, said Prof. Benarjee. Prof. T Sobhasri, Prof. Challa Ramakrishna, former Directors of the Gandhian Studies Centre, spoke at the inaugural function. Ms. Rania Lampou, Global Peace Ambassador from Greece and Mrs. Margaret Hepworth, Executive of Initiative Changers and founder of the Gandhian Experiments from Australia, delivered lectures online. Dr. P. Kishore Kumar welcomed the gathering. Dr. B.S.R Krishna proposed a vote of thanks. Students, scholars and paper presenters numbering around 150 attended the event both physical and virtual.

Tech League is a wonderful platform for young ideas, says AU VC

AU News, October:
Prof. P.V.G.D. Prasad Reddy, Vice-Chancellor, described Tech League as an excellent platform for nurturing innovative ideas among young students. It provides an opportunity for students to showcase their creativity and problem-solving skills. He addressed the youth and emphasized that they should not solely focus on academic rankings and marks. Instead, he encouraged them to explore their hidden creativity and think beyond conventional measures of success. Educational institutions should not be solely attracted to advertisements and rankings. Instead, they should nurture a culture of innovation and encourage students to make inventions that can have a positive impact on the world. They can leverage the available technological resources to make a difference and aspire to be role models for future generations.

Dr. Ravi Eshwarapu, CEO of AU A-Hub, explained that the main purpose of Tech League is to enhance students’ research and innovation capabilities. The event provides a platform for school-level students to participate in competitions and develop their skills. CEO of Tech Team Solutions, Mr. Venkata Reddy said that the Tech League is organized to fostering innovation and research among students.
Mr. Biruk Sisay Desulied receives Ph.D in Economics

AU News, October: Mr. Biruk Sisay Desulied received Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree in Economics. Andhra University Vice-Chancellor Prof. P.V.G.D. Prasad Reddy handed over the Ph.D. proceedings to Mr. Biruk Sisay Desulied and congratulated him for his hard work and scholarly contributions.

Mr. Manikumar Babu receives Ph.D in Social Work

AU News, October: Mr. M. Manikumar Babu has been awarded degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Social Work for his thesis titled “An assessment of Socio-Economic and Health status of PTGs and their spatial distribution in Paderu division Visakhapatnam District North coastal Andhra Pradesh, East Coast India.” Mr. M. Manikumar Babu has successfully completed his Ph.D in Social Work. Prof. PVGD Prasad Reddy, Vice-Chancellor, handed over the proceedings to Mr. M. Manikumar Babu.

Aruna Reddy receives Ph.D in Education

AU News, October: Ms Aruna Reddy has been awarded Degree of Doctor of Philosophy by Andhra University in the Department of Education for her thesis “A Study of Technophobia in Use of ICT among Secondary School Teachers - Vizianagaram District of Andhra Pradesh.” Andhra University Vice-Chancellor Prof. P.V.G.D. Prasad Reddy handed over the Ph.D. proceedings to Aruna Reddy. She did Ph.D under the guidance of Prof. T. Sharonraju, Head of Department of Education.

Appala Konda receives Ph.D in Philosophy

AU News, October: Mr. Panchadarla Appalakonda has been awarded Degree of Doctor of Philosophy by Andhra University in the Department of Philosophy for his thesis “Interpretations of the Bhagavadgita.” Andhra University Vice-Chancellor Prof. P.V.G.D. Prasad Reddy handed over the Ph.D. proceedings to Mr. Panchadarla Appalakonda and congratulated him for his work on Bhagavadgita.

B Raju receives Ph.D in Education

AU News, October: Mr. Boddapati Raju has been awarded Degree of Doctor of Philosophy by Andhra University in the Department of Education for his thesis “A Study on Quality Education in Secondary Schools of Visakhapatnam District of Andhra Pradesh.” Andhra University Vice-Chancellor Prof. P.V.G.D. Prasad Reddy handed over the Ph.D. proceedings to Mr. Boddapati Raju. He did Ph.D under the guidance of Prof. T. Sharonraju, Head of the Department of Education.
AU News, October: Vice-Chancellor Prof. PVGD Prasad Reddy and prominent businessman Mr. Narayana Reddy inaugurated the newly constructed Mess and Orange Hostel facility at Sivajipalem. This facility was developed at a cost of Rs. 40 lakhs. At a time about 250 students can sit and eat food in the mess. Principal of College of Engineering Prof. G. Sisibhushan Rao, Prof. V. Krishnamohan and others participated.

Dr. Krishna Manjari receives Pharmacy Teacher Award

AU News, October: Dr. A. Krishnamanjari Pawar from Andhra University's College of Pharmacy, has been awarded the Pharmacy Teacher of the Year 2022. This recognition is undoubtedly a significant achievement in her academic career. The award was presented to her during a program organized by the Pharmacy Teachers Trust of Hyderabad. It's heartening to see that her contributions and dedication to the field of pharmacy education have been acknowledged in this manner. Andhra University Vice-Chancellor P.V.G.D. Prasad Reddy and Registrar Prof. M. James Stephen, congratulated Dr. Krishna Manjari Pawar for the prestigious award. This accolade not only recognizes Prof. Pawar's excellence in teaching but also highlights the quality of education and research being conducted at Andhra University's Pharmacy Department. Her dedication and contributions to the field will likely continue to inspire both her students and colleagues.

Senior Journalist praises Vice-Chancellor

AU News, October: AU News, October: Andhra University has once again received national level recognition. The prestigious Making India Employable award was recently received and many consider it an honor for the development in innovation, incubation and entrepreneurship. Andhra University Vice-Chancellor Prof. P VG D Prasad Reddy's services for the development of the University are commendable. Mr. Gantla Srinubabu, Senior journalist and Simhachalam Temple Trustee, met Vice-Chancellor Prof. Prasad Reddy and felicitated him for the Award. He said that the University was developed in an extraordinary way in the last four years. The proof of this is the new building structures, research hubs, and accommodation complexes for the students.

Intramural Basketball championship winners receive prizes

AU News, October: Intramural basketball championship competitions were conducted in Andhra University department of physical education and Sports Sciences Prof. N. Vijaymohan, Director of the Physical Education and Prof. A. Pallavi, Head of the department of Physical Education, distributed prizes to the M.PEd students. A total number of 29 M.PEd students participated in the event in four teams.
Prof. K. Visweswara Rao, the Director, School of Distance Education, emphasized the enduring significance of Mahatma Gandhi's contributions to India and the world. On this occasion, Prof. K. Visweswara Rao stressed the need to follow Gandhi's principles. The Director and Staff offered floral tributes to the portrait of Mahatma Gandhi. Mahatma Gandhi was a staunch advocate of non-violence as a means to achieve social and political change. His commitment to non-violence inspired many people around the world. Sarvodaya, meaning “the welfare of all,” was a central concept in Gandhi's philosophy. It emphasizes the upliftment of all members of society and rural reconstruction. Gandhi believed in the development and empowerment of rural communities. His efforts in rural reconstruction aimed at improving the lives of villagers and promoting self-sufficiency. Gandhi advocated for local self-governance and autonomy at the village level. He believed that empowering local communities was essential for India's development. Gandhi worked tirelessly to promote unity among India's diverse population, emphasizing the importance of communal harmony and national integration, explained Prof. Visveswara Rao.
Yoga Center in Public Service for Four decades

AU News, October: The Yoga Village of Andhra University, which was established four decades back, has been extending yeoman service to the mental tranquility and physical fitness of the public. The Andhra University Yoga Village was established with an objective to promote mental tranquility and physical fitness among the youth along with higher education. During the last four decades, this yoga and meditation center has trained thousands of people for health and trained hundreds of expert instructors, making yoga an international icon.

The Department of Yoga and Canine of Andhra University has a history of four decades. Realizing the importance of yoga, which is now globally recognized, the management of Andhra University started yoga as a separate department in the 80s. This idea materialized when Prof. Koneru Ramakrishna Rao was the Vice-Chancellor of Andhra University. Thus, this yoga center emerged on the shores of Visakhapatnam on the South campus of Andhra University. Nestled on the shores of the beautiful Visakhapatnam, it was called “Yoga Village” in the early days. Later, a three-month certificate program in yoga was introduced in 1992. Later, a Post-Graduate Diploma in Yoga program was introduced in 1993-94. Since then, it has been running successfully with around 60 students. The department started a six-month Diploma in Yoga program in the year 2006. Later, a full-fledged department came into existence at Yoga Village in 2010. From the academic year 2012-13, the MA Yoga course was made available by the Department of Yoga. The students, who complete their course are serving as yoga instructors. This department is also providing Ph.D admissions from the academic year 2017. Yoga and meditation act as a bridge to increase the intelligence and mental peace of a person. Irregular food intake, eating fatty foods and thus gaining weight are causing many health problems. They constantly torment the human body. As a result of this, skin and respiratory diseases are also prevalent due to stress and fatigue.

Apart from this, problems like diabetes, fatigue and arthritis are becoming common in today’s society. Yoga is internationally proven to be a good way to relieve such problems. With this, many people are realizing the need for yoga. The benefits of yoga are recognized worldwide. Ways are being made for a peaceful life without diseases. In this context, the visionary administrators of Andhra University, who recognized the uniqueness and necessity of yoga four decades ago, started the services of a yoga center in AU. As a result, the people and students from Visakhapatnam and other parts of the country are being served here. As part of the services provided to the city dwellers, Andhra University has several programs every week Ayurvedic treatment for health problems has been made available since December last year. These services are provided through a special camp every week in the university yoga department. Retired Ayurvedic medical expert Dr. K. Iswara Kumar has been conducting free medical checkups and necessary medicines for patients. This camp, which is organized every week, is being provided an opportunity for the residents of the city to use it on a large scale. Andhra University, which has 98 years of historical importance unlike any other university in the state, has made this Ayurvedic medical camp available. Yoga Village Director Prof. OSR Bhanukumar disclosed that these services have been made available through the AU Yoga Department as per the instructions of Andhra University Vice-Chancellor Prof. Prasad Reddy with the desire to bring Ayurvedic medicine to the people through AU. He said that till now more than 400 people of the city have used these services. Out of this, 32 percent were treated for arthritis, 20 percent for gastrointestinal problems, 16 percent for skin problems, and 15 percent for psychological problems.

AU Yoga Department has been providing naturopathy for 20 years. It is paving the way for public health by providing services through special camps for relieving the body ailments and increasing physical efficiency. It has been working hard for decades to create awareness about this and to bring the benefits of natural medicine to people. Yoga therapy is a great way to gain physical fitness and mental tranquility. With the support of the Andhra University administration, the yoga and meditation center is now globally recognized, and it has become an international icon.
AU employees congratulating Prof. James Stephen who has been appointed as the Registrar of Andhra University.