

## Vedic varsity to work with DRDO scientists

Tirupati: In a novel concept of its kind, the Vedic scholars and scientists will work together to benefit armed forces in specific and society in general. Sri Venkateswara Vedic University (SVVU) here has entered into an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the DRDO, Hyderabad to work jointly to generate synergy between Vedic scholars and scientists, enabling to work in identified technology areas which are mutually agreeable. In his welcome address at the fourth convocation of the university and 11th Formation Day celebrations held at Mahathi Auditorium on Wednesday, SVVU Vice-Chancellor (V-C) Prof KE Devanathan said the university has entered several other MoUs like the one with Ramakrishna Mission, Vivekananda University and Belur Mutt.

Under this programme, academic cooperation in the areas of common interest about teaching, learning, publications and research will be extended between the two institutions. In the convocation, the university awarded Vishnubhatla Srirama Murthy Sastri of Chitram Agraharam in Gudlavalleru mandal of Krishna district, the title of Mahamahopadhyaya. He consistently made untiring efforts in teaching Veda, Veda Bhashya, Vyakarana, Dharma Sastra and Sahitya to many disciples. On the occasion, the V-C said the Vedic University is a premier institution with Vedic learning and marching ahead as a model university with solid foundations laid in Vedas, tradition and culture. The university has so far brought out around 121 publications, which were not earlier available to public.

Last year, the university brought out 15 research oriented publications and original texts. The university has a collection of more than 2,000 manuscripts and around 4,000 old and rare books. The V-C underlined the Adarsha Gurukulam being run by the varsity, which is an ideal model school to enrich the students with Vedic knowledge with a greater focus on Vedadhyana.

To bring out the awareness about the authentic interpretation of Vedas in India and abroad, he said the varsity took an initiative and launched a programme through its centre for Veda-Science research inviting research proposals from various institutions and from other individuals interested in aspects of harmonising Vedas and Science. Also, the rare manuscripts digitisation programme was going on in the varsity. In the convocation, two scholars were awarded PhD degrees and three received their MPhil degrees, 95 regular students of MA from various disciplines and 59 private students were awarded Acharya degrees.

Another 66 regular students and 27 private students got their Sastri degrees. In total, 360 degrees were awarded by the V-C Devanathan. TTD Projects Special Officer N Muktheswara Rao, SVVU Dean Prof Agnihothram Sreenivasacharyulu, Registrar Dr AV Radhe Shyam and Executive Council members were present. The Governor and Chancellor Dr ESL Narasimhan and TTD Executive Officer AK Singhal could not attend the convocation.