

## **JIGNASA- Fostering Research Culture among UG Students**

“Thinking does not cost anything, we do what we think; intuitiveness drives human race towards excellence”, said Chief Guest Burra Venkatesham, Principal Secretary to Government, Education Department, Government of Telangana at the **Inaugural Session of the Jignasa-Student Study Projects 2023-24 Presentation & Selection Programme**, a flagship Programme initiated by Commissionerate of Collegiate Education, Telangana and sponsored by the Telangana State Project Directorate, RUSA. Inaugurating the three-day State Level Presentation & Selection Programme at the RUSA Resource Centre on Tuesday morning as the Chief Guest, Burra Venkatesham emphasized the importance of inculcating research bent of mind among the students at very tender age so that they can not only transform themselves into good human beings but also transform the society into a better place to live in.

For the Academic Year 2023-24, in all 1033 study projects were received from 145 Government Degree Colleges with the participation of nearly 5200 students at the college level competitions. Out of 1033, 290 student study projects have been chosen for the three-day State level Presentation with the participation of 1556 students. Burra Venkatesham, who is also holding the FAC of Commissioner of Collegiate Education, addressed the participating college principals, students and faculty supervisors on the occasion, saying that the programmes such as Jignasa will instill and inculcate scientific attitude among the students. He also assured the students that steps will be initiated to publish the best projects in national and international journals.

Chairperson of the Telangana State Council of Higher Education (TSCHE) Prof. R. Limbadri, who has graced as Guest of Honour at the Programme, said that the Higher Education Council has been supporting the Higher Educational Institutions (HEIs), particularly the Government Degree

Colleges in the state in terms of financial assistance for Faculty Training, NAAC accreditation, conducting Seminars/Workshops/Conferences, etc.

Academic Guidance Officer Prof.B.Bala Bhaskar welcomed the guests, and explained the background of the Jignasa programme which was initiated from 2016-17 and its positive impact on the learning of the students.

Joint Directors of Collegiate Education Prof.G. Yadagiri and Prof.DSR Rajender Singh spoke about various quality initiatives undertaken by the Department resulting in the GDCs obtaining excellent grades by NAAC and autonomous status.

Secretary to the TSCHE Prof.Sri Ram Venkatesh exhorted the participants to incubate their ideas into a bigger and commercial scale and the Council is ready to provide the support in this regard. RUSA Project Officer Dr Soundarya Joseph also spoke on the occasion saying that RUSA has been supporting the Jignasa since its inception in 2016-17.

Professors from state and central universities who are on Jury, Principals, participating students and faculty supervisors from various GDCs were present and Academic officer Dr M.Chandra Shakher proposed the Vote of Thanks. These presentations will go on till 4<sup>th</sup> April 2024 and the winners will be given awards at the State Level Prize Distribution ceremony scheduled later.