

**Higher Education Department
(Potti Sreeramulu Telugu University)**

3.5 Non-establishment of 'Telugu Talli Pranganam'

The establishment of 'Telugu Talli Pranganam', a campus of Sree Potti Sreeramulu Telugu University, did not take off even after lapse of six years despite availability of sufficient land and finances. This was due to non-utilisation/non-availment of ₹8.79 crore (out of ₹10.62 crore allocated by University Grants Commission) during the XI Plan/extended plan period

The Potti Sreeramulu Telugu University was established in 1985 with a main objective to preserve, promote and propagate Telugu culture, language, literature, fine arts, performing arts and history. The University has been functioning with 12 departments¹⁶⁵ and four divisions¹⁶⁶ in a building¹⁶⁷ meant for a Museum, which is inadequate for its administrative requirements as well as academic activities. The University was allotted 100¹⁶⁸ acres of land in 2003 by the then State Government to develop its campus named 'Telugu Talli Pranganam'. A Master Plan¹⁶⁹ for developing infrastructure at an estimated cost of ₹50 crore was prepared (April 2005) by the University.

The University forwarded proposals (June 2007) to the University Grants Commission (UGC) for developing infrastructure in the allotted land of 100 acres. UGC provided financial assistance (July 2009 and December 2010) of ₹10.62 crore during the XI Plan (2007-12) as recommended by the Visiting Committee (December 2008) of the UGC. The allocated grant of ₹10.62 crore was intended towards General Development Assistance Scheme (GDAS - ₹6.09 crore) and for Merged Schemes (MS - ₹4.53 crore) as detailed in *Appendix-3.5*. While releasing the grant, UGC stipulated that in case of the allocated amounts remaining unspent during the Plan/extended period, the University should refund the amount with a simple interest of 10 *per cent* per annum.

Audit scrutiny of the records of the University showed that against ₹5.31 crore¹⁷⁰ released by the UGC, the University could utilise only ₹2.26 crore¹⁷¹. An amount of ₹3.48 crore¹⁷² remained unutilised even after grant of extension of time by the UGC¹⁷³.

¹⁶⁵ Departments of (i) Linguistics (ii) Lexicography (iii) Music (iv) Theatre Arts (v) Paintings and Sculpture (vi) Dance (vii) Folk Arts (viii) Culture and Tourism (ix) Communication and Journalism (x) Jyothisham (xi) Comparative Studies and (xii) Translation

¹⁶⁶ (i) Centre for Distance Education (ii) Centre for Encyclopedia (iii) International Telugu Centre (iv) Central Library

¹⁶⁷ situated in Public Gardens, Hyderabad

¹⁶⁸ at Bachupally, Rangareddy district

¹⁶⁹ Administrative Building, School of Fine Arts, School of Social and other Sciences, School of Language Development and other Departmental Buildings, Library, Auditorium, Guest House, Men's Hostel, Women's Hostel, VC Lodge, Departmental Stores, Building for Indoor Games, Quarters for all categories of staff and campus development such as Roads, Play Ground, Street Lighting, etc.

¹⁷⁰ out of ₹10.62 crore allocated

¹⁷¹ GDAS: ₹1.85 crore + MS: ₹0.41 crore

¹⁷² ₹3.05 crore + ₹0.43 crore (expenditure disallowed by the UGC)

¹⁷³ till September 2012 and March 2014 for Merged Schemes and for GDAS respectively

Audit analysis further showed the following:

- The University did not submit plans and drawings for six buildings¹⁷⁴ within the stipulated time (March 2012) for approval of UGC.
- Prior concurrence was not obtained from the State Government for continuation of academic Staff (Lecturer Posts sanctioned by UGC: 10) after the cessation of the UGC grant.
- The University was advised (by the UGC) to seek re-appropriation of the grant of rupees one crore already released under the staff component, for any other approved items under any scheme. This opportunity was, however, not utilised.
- The University did not initiate action for construction of regional centres at Srisailam and Kuchipudi despite release (December 2010) of ₹0.50 crore¹⁷⁵.
- The construction of Women's Hostel building had not commenced as of August 2017 despite release (December 2010) of ₹0.60 crore.

Thus, except for purchase of equipment¹⁷⁶ and purchase of books¹⁷⁷, no other significant activity (proposed under UGC grant) was taken up by the University. These lapses/shortcomings resulted in the University having to refund the unspent amount of ₹3.48 crore¹⁷⁸. Further, there was a liability of ₹1.98 crore¹⁷⁹ towards interest on the unspent amounts. Apart from this, the balance UGC assistance of ₹5.31 crore could not be availed due to non-utilisation of the released grants by the end of the Plan/extended Plan period.

Government accepted (February 2018) the audit observation. It was stated that the allocated funds could not be utilised in full during the Plan/extended period due to unavoidable administrative and technical reasons. The Government, however, did not elaborate on these reasons.

Thus, the establishment of 'Telugu Talli Pranganam' did not take off even after the lapse of six years despite availability of land and resources. This resulted in the loss of UGC assistance of ₹8.79 crore¹⁸⁰ besides denying quality education to students.

¹⁷⁴ (i) Academic block of School of Language Development (ii) compound wall (iii) student amenities (iv) Amphitheatre (v) Audio-Video centre (vi) Bank and (vii) post office

¹⁷⁵ out of rupees one crore allocated under Special Development Grant for Universities in Backward Areas

¹⁷⁶ total allocated grant of ₹1.25 crore was spent

¹⁷⁷ ₹0.16 crore spent out of total released grant of ₹0.25 crore

¹⁷⁸ refunded ₹1.61 crore in October 2014 and ₹1.87 crore in April 2017

¹⁷⁹ ₹1.61 crore x 61/12 x 10% = ₹81,84,166 + ₹1.87 crore x 72/12 x 10% = ₹1,16,87,500 = ₹1.98 crore (rounded to)

¹⁸⁰ ₹3.48 crore + ₹5.31 crore

Appendix-3.5
(Reference to paragraph 3.5 page 116)

**Details of Grant allocated and released by UGC, expenditure incurred thereon
and assistance forgone**

(₹ in crore)

Sl No	Component	Allocation	Released	Expenditure	Grants forgone	
					Lost (2-3)	Refunded (3-4)
	1	2	3	4	5	6
General Development Assistance Scheme (GDAS)						
1	Buildings	3.10	0.05	0	3.05	0.05
2	Equipment	1.25	1.25	1.25	--	--
3	Books/Journals	0.25	0.25	0.16	--	0.09
4	Others	0.49	0.49	0.44	--	0.05
5	Staff	1.00	1.00	0	--	1.00
	Total (GDAS)	6.09	3.04	1.85	3.05	1.19
Merged Schemes (MS)						
1	Travel Grant	0.25	0.125	0.04	0.125	0.085
2	Seminars/Workshops etc.	0.20	0.100	0.11	0.100	(-)0.010
3	Publication Grant	0.20	0.100	0.02	0.100	0.080
4	Appointment of Visiting Fellows	0.15	0.075	0.08	0.075	(-)0.005
5	Development of Sports infrastructure	0.25	0.125	0.02	0.125	0.105
6	Instrumentation Maintenance	0.16	0.080	0.04	0.080	0.040
7	Basic facilities for Women	0.50	0.250	0.04	0.250	0.210
8	Coaching SC/ST/OBC/Minorities	0.35	0.180	0.04	0.170	0.140
9	Day Care Centre	0.05	0.025	0	0.025	0.025
10	Special Development Grant for Universities in Rural/Backward/Remote/Border areas	1.00	0.500	0	0.500	0.500
11	Construction of Women's Hostel	1.20	0.600	0	0.600	0.600
12	Faculty improvement Programme	0.10	0.050	0	0.050	0.050
13	Equal Opportunity Cell	0.02	0.010	0	0.010	0.010
14	Facilities for Differently-abled persons	0.10	0.050	0.02	0.050	0.030
	Total (MS)	4.53	2.270	0.41	2.260	1.860
	Total (GDAS+MS)	10.62	5.31	2.26	5.31	3.05
	Amount disallowed by UGC	--	--	--	--	0.43
	Grand Total	10.62	5.31	2.26	5.31	3.48