

AGRASRI Regular Activities/Programmes

The Academy of Grassroots Studies and Research of India (AGRASRI) is organising multifarious activities and programmes, besides its regular research studies, publications, field visit reports, exposure visits, seminars, conferences, workshops, round-table meetings and capacity building & training programmes for elected representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions, Self-Help Group Members, Youth and Women leaders and Social Activists at the grassroots level:

❖ Chittoor District Centenary Awards Conferment Programme (1 April Every Year):



The name 'Chittoor' was derived from the word 'Chitrur', which in Tamil means 'a small town'. There is another interpretation among scholars. As 'chit' stands for 'knowledge' in Sanskrit, 'Chittoor' literally means 'the land of knowledge'. Chittoor District is a vibrant land that has given birth to several litterateurs, musicians, spiritualists, linguists, theatre artistes, film personalities and politicians.

Chittoor District is well known not only for its temples but also for its achievements in education, sericulture, dairy farming, and the poultry sector. There are seven universities in the district - Sri Venkateswara University, Sri Padmavathi Mahila Viswa Vidyalayam (the State's only women's University), Sri Venkateswara Institute of Medical Sciences (SVIMS), Rastriya Sanksrit Vidya Peetha, Sri Venkateswara Veterinary University, Sri Venkateswara Vedic University and Dravidian University - which, since their inception, have produced numerous doctors, engineers and other professionals. Recently, 3 premier central institutions namely Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER) and Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT) were established in Chittoor District with the aim of make Andhra Pradesh the epicenter of knowledge and education.

In recognition of laudable contributions and significant services rendered to the state of Andhra Pradesh in particular and Chittoor District in general by the eminent personalities of the District, the Academy of Grassroots Studies and Research of India (AGRASRI) has instituted the *Chittoor District Centenary Visishta Ratna and Chittoor District Centenary Shiromani Awards (in 7 Categories)* in the year 2011.

The Award honours role model policy makers, administrators, and exemplary scholars in respective fields, who have exhibited exceptional leadership through pursuit of excellence, every year on 1 April, i.e., the formation day of Chittoor District, Andhra Pradesh.

The Award Jury, comprising Peers and Luminaries drawn from different segments of society, headed by *Dr. Subhash C. Kashyap*, eminent Constitutional expert and Former Secretary-General of Lok Sabha, after deliberations finally picks one Leader for the Award from each category.



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