



Dr. Avula Manjulata, vice chancellor of Potti Sriramulu Telugu University (center), flanked by TANTEK officers (L to R) Prasad Thotakura, C.R. Rao, Raja Reddy, Poorna Nehru, Murthy Mulukutla and M.V.L. Prasad.

TANTEK hosts an interactive session with Dr. Avula Manjulata

Dallas, TX: The Telugu Association of North Texas (TANTEK) hosted an interactive session with Dr. Avula Manjulata, vice chancellor of Potti Sriramulu Telugu University, Hyderabad, at Pasand Indian Cuisine in Irving on July 4.

Welcoming Dr. Manjulata, Murthy Mulukutla, president of TANTEK remembered the great poets like Nannaya, Tikkana, Errapragada and modern poets like Viswandha Satyanarayana, Karunasri, Dr. C. Narayan Reddy, and Sri Sri, who did excellent writings in Telugu, and praised the Telugu University for preserving and propagating the Telugu writings by several poets.

Prasad Thotakura, special programs chairman of TANTEK, thanked Potti Sri Ramulu Telugu University for offering courses in Telugu language, literature, music, painting, dance, drama, folk arts, Hari Katha, Padya Naatakam, mimicry, journalism, and astrology. He also appreciated the progress made by the university under

the able leadership of Dr. Manjulata.

"I commend Telugu University for taking initiative to publish the works of old and modern writers. It is very impressive to see that the university is running 'Siddendra Nrutya Kendram' in a true Kuchipudi style in the village Kuchipudi, Krishna district, where the Kuchipudi dance had originated and spread throughout the world. It is highly commendable to note that the Telugu University is trying to expand its services to NRI Telugus," Prasad Thotakura said.

Murthy Mulukutla, Raja Reddy, president-elect of TANTEK, C.R. Rao, secretary, Prasad Thotakura, and Poorna Nehru, TANTEK member, felicitated Dr. Manjulata with a shawl, garlands and a token appreciation on behalf of TANTEK.

Dr. Manjulata appreciated NRI Telugus for speaking in good Telugu compared to some Telugu people in Andhra Pradesh. She admired that all NRIs, who came to this country with education as

their investment, now reached many heights with discipline, commitment and hard work.

"NRI Telugus are showing more interest to keep up the Telugu language, culture, arts, dance and music than the people back home. I appeal all parents to encourage their children to speak in Telugu though it is very essential to master the English language. As per the United Nations, if 20 percent of a particular language-speaking people can't speak their own language, it will be considered that particular language is extinct. We don't want to see our great language that has more than 3,000 years of track record to fall to this category. Once we used to have more than 6,000 languages, and now we have only 3,000 languages in use in the World today," Dr. Manjulta said.

She thanked TANTEK for felicitation and giving her an opportunity to speak to the community.

C.R. Rao, secretary of TANTEK, proposed a vote of thanks.

