

## **PRESS NOTE**

**Amaravati, January 24, 2025**

### **SRM AP Felicitates its Student Deepthi Jeevanji for Winning Arjuna Award**

SRM University-AP honoured the accomplishments of its student and **Paris Paralympian, Ms Deepthi Jeevanji**, who is a recipient of the **Arjuna Award** this year. Deepthi, a student of commerce at the Paari School of Business represented India at the Paris Paralympics 2024 in the 400 meters T20 event and secured a bronze medal, becoming the first intellectually impaired Indian athlete to win a Paralympic medal.

The felicitation ceremony featured Vice Chancellor Prof. Manoj K Arora, Registrar Dr R Premkumar, Director of Campus Life and Maintenance and Director I/C of Sports, Mr Anup Suryavanshi and Former IIT Madras Faculty, Prof. N Siva Prasad presented Ms Jeevanji with award cheques of rupees **twenty-five lakh** for her **Paralympic** success and an additional **fifteen lakh** rupees for winning the **Arjuna Award**.

The event served as a platform to encourage aspiring students to pursue sports and consider it as a career option. During the ceremony, Deepthi expressed her gratitude, stating, "It is an immense honour to represent my country on such a prestigious global platform. The support from the management, staff, and my teachers at SRM University-AP played a crucial role in helping me achieve success."

Vice Chancellor Prof. Manoj K Arora highlighted the importance of sports in education and the university's commitment to fostering a culture of excellence. He stated, "We are proud of her achievement and hope she participates in the next Paralympics too, bringing gold to the country." He also emphasised that the university is here to provide any form of support for her way forward in sports. Registrar Dr R Premkumar acknowledged Deepthi's remarkable accomplishment and expressed pride in her historic success.

Director - Campus Life and Maintenance and Director I/C of Sports, Mr Anup Singh Suryavanshi, mentioned in the press meeting that followed, SRM University-AP has allocated seventy lakh rupees to encourage its high-performing students in sports. He noted that the university's sporting infrastructure is on par with international standards and welcomes students from across the country to join its Sports Department.

The felicitation event also saw the announcements of the university's upcoming National-Level Sports Fest, UDGAM 2025 which will see participation from over 3,200 students from across the country. Arjuna Awardee Ms Deepthi Jeevanji unveiled the event brochure to the members of the media.