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Prof. Surya Dhananjay is an eminent educationist, Senior Professor at Osmania University and currently serving as Vice Chancellor of Veeranari Chakali Iamma Women's University (VCIWU), Hyderabad. She is a popular creative writer also. Her excellence in the field of education and literature is inspiration to many. She is known to be the first tribal woman to be appointed as a faculty member in Department of Telugu, Osmania University (O.U.) and the first tribal woman academician to rise to the rank of a University Vice-chancellor. She has about 25 years of experience in teaching in higher education and research in Telugu literature.

Prof. Surya Dhananjay holds the M.A. (1997), M.Phil. (2001) and Ph.D. (2006) in Telugu and also holds Bachelor's Degree in Education (B.Ed.) (1995), Bachelor's Degree in Library and Information Science (B.L.I.Sc.) (1998) from Osmania University, Hyderabad. She started her career as Degree Lecturer (DL) at Government Degree College, Sadasivpet in August 1999. She was appointed as Assistant Professor in the Department of Telugu, O.U. in November 1999 and Associate Professor in 2007 through direct recruitment. She was promoted as Professor in 2013. Apart from teaching she completed (3) Major Research Projects (MRP) with UGC and ICSSR funding and published more than (80) articles in national and international journals/magazines, organized many national and international seminars/conferences/webinars. She also published (6) books under own authorship, (3) books in co-authorship. (2) translated books, (3) books under publication. She has edited (11) books and co-edited (7) books. She has been guiding the research scholars and about (22) Ph.D. degrees were awarded and (3) Post-doctoral (PDF) projects were completed under her supervision.

Prof. Surya Dhananjay was Head, Department of Telugu, O.U. (2017-22), Director, Women Studies Centre, O.U. (2018-22), Chairman, Board of Studies in Telugu (2016-17) and Youth Welfare Officer, O.U. (2012-2017), Member of the Cultural Co-ordination Committee for organization of O.U. Centenary Celebrations 2017, Coordinator for UGC Refresher Course conducted by Academic Staff College, O.U. (22nd June - 12th July, 2018), Member of Board of Studies in Telugu, Kakatiya University, Warangal, Mahatma Gandhi University, Nalgonda and Palamuru University, Mahbubnagar and subject expert and member of governing bodies of several affiliated colleges under Osmania University.

Prof. Surya Dhananjay was Member of Telangana Council for Higher Education (TGCHE) (2014 to 2017), Member of 'Telugu Language Advisory Panel' by National Book Trust (NBT), New Delhi (2018-20), Member of the selection committee for Mahila Achievers State Awards (2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019), Member of Internal Grievances and Complaints Committee Against Sexual Harassment for Women in Workplace for Department of Handloom and Apparel Export Parks, Government of Telangana (2017-18), Member of Selection Committees for award of 'Dasarathi Krishnamacharya Award State Award' and

'Kaloji Narayana Rao Award State Award Selection Committee' (2016 to 2018), and Member of Board for Selection Committee for Degree College Lecturers Telangana Public Service Commission (TGPSC), Hyderabad (2018).

Prof. Surya Dhananjay has received (22) State Level and (5) National Level awards to her credit from various prestigious Cultural / Literary / Voluntary organizations for her contribution to Telugu and Banjara literatures and rendering service to the society. Few of the prestigious state awards include State Award for Meritorious Teachers (2024), Guduru Sitaram Katha Puraskaram (2023), Nari Shiromani National Award (2021) and Mahila Shiromani National Award (2021), Women Achiever Award (2020) from Telangana State Government, Janapada Sahitya Ratna (2018), Acharya Birudu Ramaraju Janapada Vignana Prize' (2015) and national awards include Savitri Bai Phule National Award (2018), Mother Teresa National Award (2018), Indira Priyadarshini National Award (2017), Banjara Mahila Ratna National Award, (2013).

Prof. Surya Dhananjay is an Associate Member of American Folklore Society (AFS), Indiana University, U.S.A., Life Member & Associate Secretary of Folklore Society of South Indian Languages (FOSSIL), Thiruvananthapuram, TN, India, Member, Telangana Saraswatha Parishath (TSP), Hyderabad, Life Member, Telangana Janapada Sahitya Parishath (TJSP), Hyderabad, T.G. Member & Vice President, National Banjara Professors Association (NBPA), T.G. Chapter.