

Alma Fiesta, the socio cultural fest of **IIT Bhubaneswar** along with Souls for Solace, the social welfare society of the college, organized the social theme release of "**Prayatna** -The social drive campaign" of **Alma Fiesta** on **3rd September 2015** at the **Institute Auditorium**. Mr. Ravinder Singh, author, Mrs. Pranati Satpathy & Mr. Shailesh from SBI, Dr. U.C. Sahoo, Dr. N. C. Sahoo, Dr. Amrita Satpathy, were the dignitaries present during the event.

The event started with an interactive session of Mr. Ravinder Singh with the students, where he shared his experiences as an author. He encouraged the students towards developing a reading habit, for it was a key towards becoming a good learner. The author of best sellers like "I too had a love story" and "Can love happen twice" engaged the audience throughout the evening with his inspirational and motivational words.

The event was then followed by the introduction of "**Prayatna**-The social drive campaign" by **Alma Fiesta**. **Prayatna**, started for the very first time in the year 2014, sought to bring about a sense of awareness amongst the general masses towards their social responsibility. In its past versions Prayatna had focused upon the social causes of "**Go Green**", "**Swacch Bharat**" and "**Cancer awareness**".

This was then preceded by the theme release for **Prayatna 2016** by Mr. Ravinder Singh. **Prayatna-2016** has been aimed to set out with the theme "**Solar Energy-Striving for a Brighter Tomorrow**".

A presentation was given highlighting the excessive use of non-renewable sources of energy and how solar energy can be an ideal alternative for power generation. It also stressed on the various initiatives taken by IIT Bhubaneswar to implement this idea. Research on "**Solar Powered DC System for Domestic Electrification and Rural Application**" by Dr. N C Sahoo and Control of Stand - Alone hybrid "**Solar - Diesel Generator - Battery**" power supply system DST by Dr. C N Bhende was also a special highlight of the presentation.

Then the presentation focused on various initiatives to be taken up **Prayatna** which includes Nukkad (Street Plays), presentation and seminars with students on importance of solar energy. It also includes an inter school idea pool competition to encourage innovative ideas, a science exhibition aimed towards implementation of solar power in practical life. In addition to this, **Alma Fiesta** would like to extend their support towards **Unnat Bharat Abhiyaan** program taken by **IIT Bhubaneswar**.

The program then concluded with the vote of thanks by Dr. Soobhankar Pati, the chairman of **Alma Fiesta 2016** who stated the importance of social cause.

