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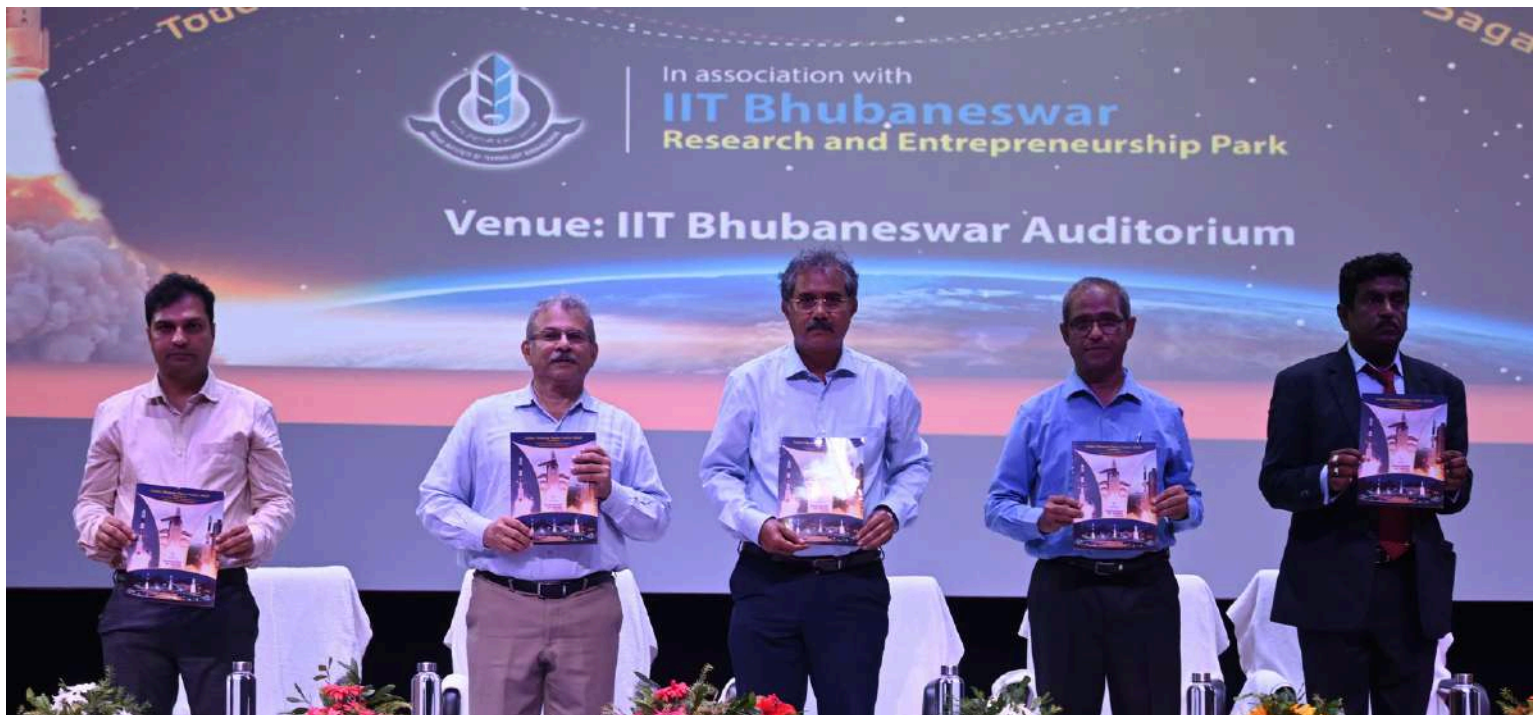
# IITBBS Express

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# IIT BHUBANESWAR JOINS ISRO IN MONTH-LONG CELEBRATION PRIOR TO NATIONAL SPACE DAY

The Research & Entrepreneurship Park (REP) of IIT Bhubaneswar joined Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) in the month-long celebration National Space Day, 20th July to 23rd August 2024. The National Space day has been designated to celebrate the successful soft-landing of Chandrayaan-3 at Siva Shakti Point in the South Pole of the Moon last year. To commemorate this success, ISRO envisaged capacity building for entrepreneurship and innovation in the space science technology throughout the country through a month-long celebration across the country. As part of the celebration, a two-day event was organized in the premises of IIT Bhubaneswar on 22nd and 23rd July 2024, in association with Satish Dhawan Space Centre, SHAR. The event was inaugurated by Prof. Hirendra Nath Ghosh, Director NISER, Bhubaneswar, in the presence of Prof. Shreepad Karmalkar, Director, IIT Bhubaneswar.





Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Ghosh said: “In addition to doctors, engineers and entrepreneurs, India needs scientists and researchers for overall development.” Appreciating the achievements of ISRO, he opined that especially, the Space Technology sector requires brilliant minds to serve the nation in a different manner.” He urged the students to be focused towards making a difference through their contributions in different fields.

Focusing on linking Entrepreneurship and growth of Space Technology, Prof. Karmalkar said: “In early 2000’s ISRO used to launch 1 satellite every two years. This increased to 2 satellites a year by late 2000’s. Adding to the technological growth of the nation, the IITs across the country have moved beyond knowledge generation, knowledge dissemination and knowledge application to include wealth generation through start-ups and entrepreneurship in their scope. IIT Bhubaneswar has also come forward towards achieving this goal through its 100-Cube Start-up Initiative, launched in February 2024. The target is now to motivate entrepreneurship among students at the school level and IIT Bhubaneswar is taking initiative towards this through its Research and Entrepreneurship Park. Space entrepreneurship will also be included in this effort.”



Shri J. Damodaram, Senior Scientist, ISRO also spoke on the objective of the event, that is, enhancing collaboration between entrepreneurship and innovation for furthering the progress in the space sector. Shri Amitav Mohanty, Scientist-SG, ISRO also spoke on the occasion and informed about the programme.

Dr. Soobhankar Pati, CEO of the Research and Entrepreneurship Park at IIT Bhubaneswar, delivered the welcome address and emphasized the significance of fostering entrepreneurship. He stated that IIT Bhubaneswar's Research and Entrepreneurship Park has incubated startups whose technological innovations can be utilized by ISRO. He further highlighted that it is time for students to aspire to become job creators rather than job seekers and to consider entrepreneurship as a viable career path. Shri Kishor Kumar Panda, PRO, Satish Dhawan Space Centre, SHAR, ISRO proposed a vote of thanks.



Shri Bamadev Acharya, Registrar, IIT Bhubaneswar graced the valedictory session of the programme and appreciated the efforts made towards organizing the event successfully in association with ISRO. He reiterated the commitment of the Institute towards research and innovation for the development of the country. He also motivated the school students to take up entrepreneurship as their career, instead of being only the job-seekers. Prizes of the winners of the quiz competition among the school students were distributed on this occasion.



The highlights of the two-day event were a mobile exhibition of ISRO's innovations and achievements namely 'Space on the Wheels' and static floor exhibitions of scaled-down models and equipment being used in the space sector. The event also comprised space quiz for school students, popular talks by leading scientists of ISRO, Space Start-ups, academicians, followed by interaction among various stakeholders. The inaugural ceremony witnessed around 2500 audience, including students from nearby schools.



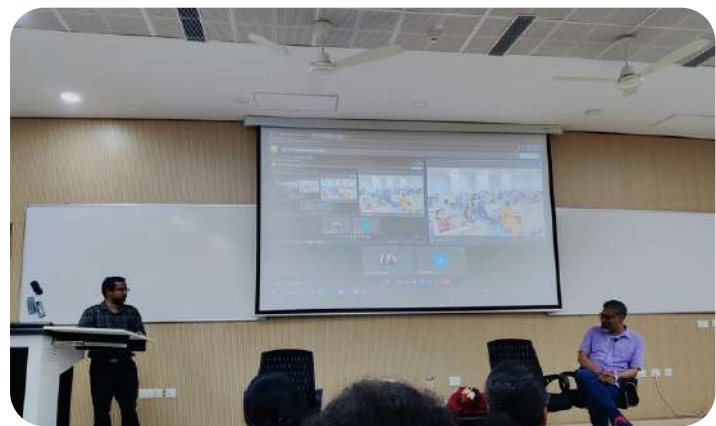
Dr. Debadatta Swain, Dr. Sourav Sil and Mrs Purabee Purnasha Mishra, COO, REP, along with the members of REP, coordinated the event.



# **PUBLIC LECTURE: 'ARE MORE CHOICES BETTER?, AND OTHER TALES ABOUT DECISION MAKING'**



School of Humanities, Social Sciences and Management, IIT Bhubaneswar hosted famous economist Professor Sudipta Sarangi, Professor and Head, Department of Economics, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA, USA, and organised a distinguished public lecture (in hybrid-mode), on 16th July 2024. His talk was titled “Are more choices better?... and other tales about decision making”. Dr. Sitakanta Panda, Assistant Professor of Economics welcomed and introduced the speaker.



Drawing on theoretical and empirical insights and concepts from behavioral economics, experimental economics, political economics, and microeconomic theory, Prof. Sarangi delivered an illuminating talk on how economic agents elicit consumer preferences in a suboptimal manner and how some psychological interventions can correct it to produce optimal outcomes. Prof. Sarangi provided examples from his own research as well as from the several studies of Nobel Laureates Daniel Kahneman and Richard Thaler. Through several real-life examples, Prof. Sarangi stressed on the role of psychological biases in explaining economic outcomes. In an interaction with the faculty and research scholars subsequent to his talk, he inspired and motivated the audience to undertake theoretical and experimental research in recently growing subdisciplines of behavioral economics and political economics. The audience had a fruitful discussion on various aspects of research in economics and psychology with intersections in social sciences. Dr. Dukhabandhu Sahoo, Head of the School felicitated Prof. Sarangi. More than a hundred scholars and faculties had attended the lecture in the offline and online mode.

# NSS SPECIAL CAMP



The National Service Scheme (NSS) unit of IIT Bhubaneswar organized a 7-day special camp in Podapada village from 14th to 20th July 2024. The camp included a Cleanliness Drive; activities related to women empowerment in the village including a session on menstrual hygiene; Bright Beginning in School initiative to engage with the students and fostering a positive learning environment; programme on Cyber Crime and Digital Awareness; plantation drive; health camp and awareness session on environment protection, no-plastic use and sensitization session on safety from lightening. Prof. Shreepad Karmalkar, Director, Shri Bamadev Acharya, Registrar and other senior members of the Institute also visited the camp and encouraged the NSS volunteers. NSS Coordinator Dr. Sivaiah Bathula coordinated the camp.



## INTERACTION WITH FACULTY MEMBERS



An interaction of faculty members with Director and Deans was held on 15th July 2024 and 16th July 2024 (with 2 groups of faculty school wise). The meeting chaired by the Director Prof. Shreepad Karmalkar. Professor Rajesh Roshan Dash, Dean-Student Affairs, Prof. Shantanu Pal, Dean-Under Graduate Programs and Prof. Chandrashekhar N. Bhende, Dean-PG & Research Programs were present in the meeting with Heads of Schools and faculty members.

The meeting had the major point of discussion: Role of faculty members and faculty advisors in creating a supportive environment for the students' mental well-being in addition to helping/guiding them to excel in their academics and extracurricular activities.

## ORIENTATION FOR NEW STUDENTS & PARENTS



IIT Bhubaneswar welcomed the new MTech and MSc. students with a great enthusiasm. The admission of these students, followed by the counselling session for the parents were held on 19th July 2024. An orientation programme for the students was held on 22nd July. The new members of the campus were briefed about various academic and non-academic facilities of the Institute by Deans, Senior Faculty Members and Officials of the Institute, in the presence of Prof. Shreepad Karmalkar, Director. The queries and concerns of the students and parents were addressed during these sessions.

# PARTICIPATION IN INDUSTRY-ACADEMIA-RESEARCH MEET



Prof. Animesh Mandal, Head of School-School of Minerals, Metallurgical & Materials Engineering participated in an Industry-Academia-Research Meet on the theme 'Current and future prospects of non-ferrous industries' with focus on utilisation of non-ferrous metallurgical waste in the circular economy mode, decarbonization practices, impact of digitization and industry 4.0. He discussed on the theme as a panel member on this occasion.

The programme was jointly organised by Indian Institute of Metals (IIM) Bhubaneswar Chapter in collaboration with CSIR-IMMT, Bhubaneswar on July 11, 2024 at CSIR-IMMT.

# Happy Reading



PICTURE CREDIT: CLIX

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ଯେତେ ଦେଖିଲେହେଁ ନୂଆ ଦିଶୁଥାଇ

*Sundare truptira abasada nahi  
Jete dekhilehen nua disuthai*

**A thing of beauty is a joy for ever...**

କବିବର ରାଧାନାଥ ରାୟ  
Kabibara Radhanath Ray