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Events • Achievements • Expressions

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IIT Bhubaneswar signed MoU with NTU, Singapore and Energy Department of the Government of Odisha

IIT Bhubaneswar signed MoU with Nanyang Technological University, Singapore (NTU Singapore) and Energy Department of the Government of Odisha to address various issues including New and Renewables Energy Systems, Storage Technologies, Energy management in Microgrid and Smartgrids, Market and Deregulation in current energy systems with multiple energy vectors, Green Hydrogen eco-systems etc. Further, collaborative effort will be extended in other emerging domains such as Semiconductor Technology, Communication systems, AI and Computing, Waste Management, Water resource management, Mineral and Materials technologies etc. This collaboration will enhance student exchange programme with the NTU Singapore, creating larger space for technology innovation and new knowledge dissemination in the emerging need of both countries. This platform will nurture fresh talents and engaging them in advancing technologies to meet tomorrow's challenges. This industry-academia interface will build bigger platform for start-up ecosystems fuelling technology innovation and economy. This MoU was signed on 17th January 2025.



Prof. Shreepad Karmalkar, Director, IIT Bhubaneswar said that the MoU between Department of Energy, Government of Odisha, IIT Bhubaneswar and NTU Singapore will further enhance the platform for engaging all three organizations in developing cutting edge technologies in emerging domains. Prof. S.R. Samantaray, Head of the School, Electrical and Computer Sciences emphasized that the collaboration will enable us to collaborate NTU Singapore, one of the world class institute and Energy department of Odisha, building green energy corridor, meeting India's mandate on Green Energy by 2030. The MoU was signed by Prof. P.K. Sahu, Dean- Alumni Affairs & International Relations in presence of Prof. Dinakar Pasla, Dean-SRIC.

Second CSR Conclave at IIT Bhubaneswar delves into Technology, Innovation, and Circular Economy for Sustainable Development

The second CSR Conclave organized by the CSR Cell of IIT Bhubaneswar, in collaboration with IIT Bhubaneswar Research & Entrepreneurship Park held on 10th January 2025, had deliberations on the Collaborative approach of Corporate Social Responsibility. Speakers and participants across industry, NGOs, academia, and government agencies had detailed discussions around the broader theme 'Uniting for a Sustainable Impact' and the theme of the conclave 'Technology, Innovation, and Circular Economy for Sustainable Development'.



Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Shreepad Karmalkar, Director, IIT Bhubaneswar said: "The role of corporate social responsibility can be understood with the analogy of blood donation. This service benefits both the giver and the recipient. Fresh blood replaces the blood that has been lost in the donor's body, enhancing the donor's general health."

Shri B.K. Mishra, Convener, CSR Forum, Odisha graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. In his address, he said: "The second CSR conclave on technology, innovation, and circular economy for sustainable development brings together academia, industry, start-ups, and NGOs to address societal challenges and align with the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The conclave emphasizes innovation-driven CSR strategies that foster inclusive growth, sustainability, and accountability. Odisha, leveraging its rich natural resources, skilled workforce, and stable governance, is poised for unprecedented growth, aiming to become a "Vikasit Odisha" by 2036."



Chief Speaker of the Conclave Shri D.K. Mohanty, President (HRM), Jayaswal Neco Industries, Steel Plant Division highlighted different dos' and don'ts in the field of corporate social responsibility citing various examples from his professional experience. Shri Jagdish Chander, Circle Head, General Manager (Canara Bank) and Shri Sudhi Ranjan Mishra, Head, Corporate Affairs, Paradeep Phosphates Ltd., Odisha also graced the programme as guest of honour.

Prof. Naresh Chandra Sahu (Convener and Professor in-Charge, CSR Cell delivered the welcome address and shared the objectives of this programme.

As part of the conclave, a panel discussion on 'Uniting for Sustainable Impact: An Industry and Academia Perspective' involved deliberations from industry leaders and CSR experts like Prof. Pranay Kumar Swain, National Institute of Science Education and Research (NISER); Shri Dharmendra Kumar Mishra (Regional Director), Dattopant Thengadi National Board for Workers Education & Development Kendriya Shram Kalyan Sadan; Shri Bijoy Ketan Panda Information Analyst, Tata Consultancy Services and Ms. Rita Dash, Assistant General Manager, Canara Bank. The conclave also witnessed paper presentations by research scholars from different institutions.

Dr. Soobhankar Pati, CEO of Research & Entrepreneurship Park, IIT Bhubaneswar proposed a vote of thanks. The student volunteers and the members of the Ladies Club of the Institute were felicitated for their contribution towards the welfare of the communities in and around the campus.



IIT Bhubaneswar signs MoU with CSIR-Central Road Research Institute (CRRRI)



With an objective to explore opportunities of collaboration, intellectual cooperation, scholarly exchange, and development of national partnership, IIT Bhubaneswar and CSIR-Central Road Research Institute (CRRRI), New Delhi have signed a Memorandum of Understanding on 8th January 2025. The MoU was signed by Prof. Dinakar Pasla, Dean (Sponsored Research and Industrial Consultancy), IIT Bhubaneswar and Prof. Manoranjan Parida, Director, CSIR-CRRRI, in the presence of Prof. Shreepad Karmalkar, Director, IIT Bhubaneswar.

The MoU intends to promote collaborative research, facilitate the exchange of ideas, development of new knowledge, and to enhance high quality research acumen. The major thrust areas of research on which both the parties will jointly work are Traffic and Transportation Engineering, Pavement Engineering, Road Safety and other allied Civil Engineering areas such as Geotechnical Engineering and Bridge Engineering etc. The modes of cooperation will include exchanges of faculty and students for the purposes of research and teaching; development and implementation of collaborative research projects, professional development programs, and capacity-building efforts; and dissemination of findings through scholarly publications, white papers, and in the media.

Among others, from Prof. Sumanta Halder, Head-School of Infrastructure, IIT Bhubaneswar; Dr. Pradeep Kumar, Chief Scientist, Head (Pavement Evaluation Division), CSIR-CRRRI; Dr. Umesh Chandra Sahoo and Dr. Anush K. Chandrappa, Faculty Members, IIT Bhubaneswar were present on the occasion.

Talk on 'Religion, History and Identity: The Making of Heritage-scape of Sacred Cities'

IIT Bhubaneswar has organised a talk on 'Religion, History and Identity: The Making of Heritage-Scape of Sacred Cities' by Prof. Pralay Kanungo, Leiden University, the Netherlands. Formerly a Professor at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. He has rich experience and knowledge in the fields of religion and politics, Hinduism/Public Hinduism, Hindu Nationalism, Urbanity and religion, Indian democracy, social, cultural and political history Odisha, Hindu diaspora and India-China connection.



In his talk, Prof. Kanungo said: "Heritage is a complex and contested concept with multiple meanings and manifestations. The interplay of religion, history and identity, from ancient to the contemporary, has made up the heritage-scape of cities like Varanasi, Hardwar, Ayodhya and Puri. Religion, in its aspects as performance, spectacle, and everyday life-practice, is at the core of this urban configuration. Heritage of the many sacred cities is Hindu and non-Hindu, Brahmanical and subaltern, natural and built, tangible and intangible, performative and experiential. The discourse of heritage formation reveals how dominant actors and agencies, at different times, used religion, ideology and power to destroy and create heritage, shaping the contours of heritage-scape through myth and event, text and context, rituals and everyday life, erasure and re-invention."

At the outset, Prof. Chandi Prasad Nanda, Director, Odisha Research Centre, (ORC) Bhubaneswar briefed the audience about the major goals of ORC.

A large number of students, faculty members and employees of the Institute attended this programme. Among others, Shri Bamadev Acharya, Registrar was present on the occasion. Dr. Vijayakrishna Kari, Professor-in-Charge (Seminar) coordinated the programme.

Short-term GIAN Course on Thermochemical Conversion of Biomass Wastes to Bioenergy & Value-added Products

The School of Infrastructure, IIT Bhubaneswar has successfully conducted a short-term GIAN course on “Thermochemical Conversion of Biomass Wastes to Bioenergy and Value-added Products” from 6th to 11th January 2025 at IIT Bhubaneswar. The 5-day lecture series aimed to investigate the role of advanced thermochemical conversion technologies in the generation of renewable bioenergy and carbon-neutral fuels toward environment sustainability. The course was instructed by Prof. Hwai Chyuan Ong, a distinguished professor from Sunway University, Malaysia. Other notable invitees included Prof. V. Panduranga, Dean of Continuing Education at IIT Bhubaneswar; and Prof. Sumanta Haldar, Head of the School of Infrastructure. The course was coordinated by Dr. Remya Neelancherry from the School of Infrastructure. It was conducted in Hybrid mode with more than 40 offline participants including students (Bachelor's, Master's and PhD scholars), academicians, and industrial affiliations from across India and many joining Online.



The course content including the pyrolysis, co-processing, gasification, hydrogenation process from biomass conversion, as well as using advanced technology such as microwave and ultra-sonication assists process, utilizing the catalytic process. The effects on the related to reaction conditions, various reactor types, fundamental principles and products are discussed comprehensively with the reaction mechanisms involved in the catalytic effects.

The primary objectives of the course were:

- i. Exposing participants to the concept of biomass energy
- ii. Building in confidence and capability amongst the participants in the application of thermochemical conversion process (Catalytic thermochemical, Co-processing, Co-hydrothermal, gasification, pyrolysis etc.)
- iii. Providing exposure to practical problems and their solutions, through case studies in biomass waste to bioenergy



GIAN Course on Vision-Based Condition Assessment of Civil Infrastructure

The School of Infrastructure has organised the GIAN (Global Initiative of Academic Networks) course on "Vision-Based Condition Assessment of Civil Infrastructure," held from 5th to 11th January 2025. The course was an exceptional opportunity for participants to delve into the innovative domain of vision-based technologies for infrastructure evaluation, which has immense potential in the fields of Structural Health Monitoring (SHM) and sustainable development.



The primary objective of this course was to provide participants with an in-depth understanding of how vision-based techniques can be applied for the condition assessment of civil infrastructure.

The course was conducted by Prof. Vedhus Hoskere, University of Houston, Texas, a globally renowned expert in vision-based SHM.

The course included lectures on topics such as:

- Fundamentals of Vision-Based Monitoring
- Machine Learning and Deep Learning in SHM
- Synthetic and Real-Time Data Environments
- Application of Computer Vision for Heritage Structure Assessment

Participants were engaged in practical sessions using state-of-the-art tools and software for processing and analyzing image data, including the application of models for detecting structural damage and defects.



First-ever Internship Fair



The Career Development Cell of IIT Bhubaneswar organised the first-ever Internship Fair on 18th January 2025. The event marked the attendance of students from all the years of B.Tech, M.Tech, M.Sc and PhD programs. The event was conducted in a hybrid mode. The Internship Fair'25 was a great opportunity for the students to engage with leading tech and core companies, gaining valuable insights into various work domains such as construction planning, manufacturing, electronics, etc.

At the outset, the convener of the event, Dr. Nawaz Hussain delivered the welcome address, highlighting the importance of bridging the gap between students and industry professionals. Prof. Rajesh Roshan Dash, Dean (Student Affairs) spoke on the significance of such initiatives in enhancing students' professional preparedness and how the internship fair contributes to the overall development of students.

Mr. Subha Sanketa Padhy, Head Data Chapter, HCL Tech graced the occasion as Chief Guest and spoke on the value of internships in building a professional foundation for the students. He also discussed the industry's evolving expectations and how this fair can help meet both students' aspirations and organizational needs.

Convener of the event, Dr. Santanu Mandal proposed a vote of thanks after the inaugural ceremony.



A series of invited talks by industry leaders were organized during the programme, which provided insights about different industries, potential career paths as well as opportunities. Departmental visits for the industry leaders were also organised on this occasion. Industry leaders from Deloitte, L&T, AYAY Biosciences, XRobotics, Villamart, LN Indtech, Zen Shastra, Neophal and Sedaxis joined the programme in both online and offline modes.

Speaking on this occasion, Dhruv Vasudev, Head Student Internship Coordinator, Career Development Cell, IIT Bhubaneswar shared his experience and said : “Organizing the first-ever Internship Fair of IIT Bhubaneswar has been an enriching experience, providing students with valuable industry exposure and career insights. This initiative reinforces our commitment to strengthening industry ties and creating impactful opportunities for future leaders.”



This Internship Fair represents a significant step towards addressing the challenge of securing student internships, by bringing together students and industry professionals in a single space.

Dr. Srikant Gollapudi, Professor-in-Charge, Career Development Cell and his team led by Mr. Rabi Kumar Patnaik, Career Development & Placement Officer coordinated the programme.

Exposure Visit to IIT Bhubaneswar by students of Nimapara Autonomous College

67 students (UG and PG) and 7 faculty members of Nimapara Autonomous College, Puri visited IIT Bhubaneswar on 22nd January 2025). They visited Student Activity Centre (SAC) and Central Library, and interacted with faculty members and research scholars of the Department of Mathematics. Tarakanta Nayak made a presentation on ‘Mathematics: What, Why and How?’ This was followed by a lively interaction on different aspects of Mathematics with faculty members, namely Dr. Akash Ashirbad Panda, Dr. Amardeep Sarkar, Dr. Indrajit Jana, Dr. Mahendra Gupta, and Dr. Neelam Saikia. The faculty members shared their experiences on the journey to these points in their lives.



Makar Sankranti Festival

IIT Bhubaneswar campus became vibrant with the festive fervour of Makar Sankranti. This unique celebration brought together the diverse traditions and customs of different regions of India, promoting the spirit of unity and mutual respect.

As part of the celebrations, the Students Gymkhana organised various programmes and competitions like: Sankranti Tales (Story Writing Competition); Kite Flying; Rangoli Making Competition (on the theme of Pongal); Bonfire and Jamming (for Lohri) and Quiz on Biodiversity. The students and residents participated in these events with great enthusiasm.







Keeping up the festive spirit, the women members of IIT Bhubaneswar also celebrated Makar Sankranti on 14th January 2025. The event was hosted by Smt. Shruti Karmalkar, wife of the Director, wherein the women members and children of IIT Bhubaneswar Family took part in various activities and enjoyed the fun-filled evening.



ओस की बूंद सा है जिंदगी का सफर
कभी फूल में तो कभी धूल में।

The journey of life is like a dewdrop
Sometimes in flowers and sometimes in dust.

