



उन्नत भारत अभियान UNNAT BHARAT ABHIYAN

शिक्षित भारत-स्वस्थ भारत- स्वच्छ भारत- स्वावलंबी भारत- संपन्न
भारत

UBA Commemorates Utkal Diwas 2025: A Spectacular Celebration of Odisha's Heritage, Art, and Community!



In order to commemorate the 89th Utkal Diwas, Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) of IIT Bhubaneswar organized an Utkal Diwas celebration cum Exhibition at the Community Centre on March 29, 2025. The event celebrated the rich Odia tradition and culture with a presentation of traditional music, vibrant handicrafts, authentic Odia cuisine, and artistic displays.

The Director Prof. Shreepad Karmalkar, accompanied by his wife Mrs. Shruti Karmalkar, and Registrar Mr. Bamdev Acharya, graced the occasion with their presence. Dr. Seema Bahinipati (Coordinator, UBA), Dr. Tarakanta Nayak (Co-coordinator, UBA), Dr. Raj Kumar Singh (Faculty Theme Leader, Agriculture and Environment Team) and members of faculty and staff, students, scholars of the institute attended the event. Residents of the five adopted villages also joined in the celebration.



A major attraction of the celebration was the exhibition-cum-sale, featuring 20 stalls that captured the essence of Odisha's artistic, culinary, and sustainable practices beautifully. Each stall showcased a unique facet of the state's heritage:

Heritage Handicrafts & Art: Visitors marvelled at the intricate Paddy Craft & Dhokra craft from the Odisha State Tribal Museum, the timeless beauty of Pattachitra paintings and handwoven fabrics from Sharada Designs and Odisha Hasta Tanta, and the fine craftsmanship of silver filigree jewellery by Nina's Tarakashi Pvt. Ltd. The delicate terracotta sculptures and Sabai grass products further reflected the deep artistic traditions of the region.





Traditional Attire & Accessories: Local artisans displayed exquisite hand-stitched bags from Binayak Tailoring Centre and beautifully crafted home décor items from Maavni Designs, offering visitors a chance to own a piece of Odisha's craftsmanship

Authentic Odia Cuisine: Mahalaxmi SHG and Pitha Padanpur served classic treats like Poda Pitha, Arisha Pitha, and Manda Pitha, while the much-loved Dahibara Aludum, offered by Dahibara Express and Mamata's Cloud Kitchen, was a crowd favorite. The refreshing Tanka Torani and a range of organic food products added to the authentic culinary experience.

Eco-Friendly & Sustainable Products: Encouraging a sustainable lifestyle, Alekh Nursery showcased a variety of saplings, while Barnali Organic Products featured handcrafted goods made by women entrepreneurs, promoting eco-conscious living.



The enthusiastic participation of faculty members, students, and institute residents further added to the festive spirit. Guests actively interacted with artisans, learned about indigenous crafts, and appreciated the artistry behind each product. The event also served as an important platform for small

businesses, self-help groups, and local artisans to showcase their work and connect with a wider audience.



This occasion was a powerful celebration of Odisha's identity, traditions, and craftsmanship. The event created a space for meaningful exchanges between artisans and attendees, fostering a deeper appreciation for local heritage. The enthusiastic response from all participants and the strong community support made it a truly memorable occasion.

As the event came to a close, the spirit of Odisha remained alive in the hearts of everyone present. With its perfect blend of tradition, culture, and community engagement, the celebration stood as a testament to the timeless beauty of Odisha's heritage, making Utkal Diwas 2025 a resounding success.

GALLERY



