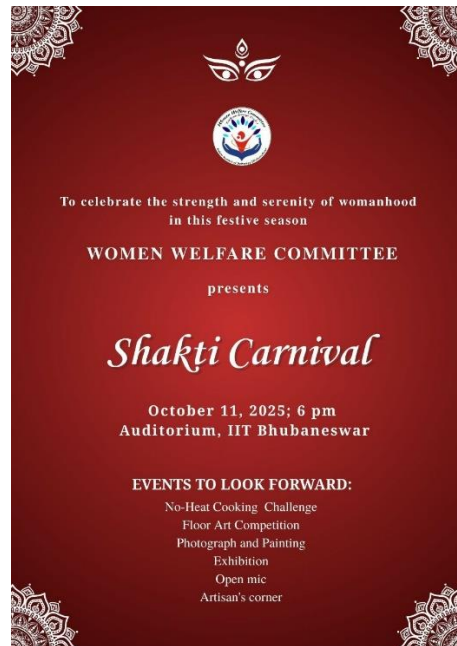


Shakti Carnival: A Celebration of Art, Culture, and Womanhood



The campus was imbued with a vibrant and festive spirit on the evening of 11th October, 25, as the much-anticipated Shakti Carnival unfolded at Auditorium, IIT Bhubaneswar. Organized by Women Welfare Committee (WWC), in the joyous backdrop of Navratri, Dussehra, and Diwali, the carnival was a grand celebration of womanhood and the divine 'Shakti,' bringing together students, faculty, and residents for a memorable extravaganza of art, culture, food, and talent.

The carnival was graced by the esteemed presence of the Chief Patron, Prof. Shreepad Karmalkar, the director, IIT Bhubaneswar, and inaugurated by the Chief Guest, an acclaimed painter, Mrs. Shruti Karmalkar. The ceremony was further presided over by the Chairperson of WWC, Dr. Anasuya Roychowdhury who spoke about the importance of celebrating the multifaceted spirit of womanhood. Dr. Prama Bhattacharya, Member Secretary of WWC was also actively present on the occasion.

The carnival featured a dynamic lineup of simultaneous events that catered to a wide array of talents and interests. The venue was transformed into a stunning visual gallery with the theme "Celebrating Womanhood." Participants submitted powerful photographs and paintings, each piece telling a unique story and capturing the essence of 'Shakti' in its various forms. A beautiful table painted with madhubani art-work by Mrs. Shruti Karmalkar was indeed a special attraction of the exhibition. The entire display was a testament to the immense artistic talent within our community. This event brought the rich cultural tapestry of India to life. Teams passionately worked within their designated spaces to create breathtaking floor art. The competition was a riot of colors and creativity, showcasing intricate designs and traditional motifs. Culinary innovation was at its peak during this fast-paced, fireless cooking competition. Student teams of two were challenged to prepare one food item and one drink in just 30 minutes. The results were both

delicious healthy and inventive, proving that great food does not always require heat. The gallery of the Auditorium was jam-packed with beautiful handicrafts and traditional products made by artisans that came to display. From handmade books, to jewellery, to home decor products, the artisans showcased their talent in detail. The stage buzzed with raw energy and talent as performers took the mic to share poems, stories, songs, and stand-up acts. The open and encouraging format allowed for spontaneous and heartfelt performances, celebrating the power of expression.



The atmosphere throughout the carnival was electric, with a palpable sense of community and celebration. The event successfully achieved its goal of providing a platform to honor the spirit of 'Shakti' through diverse artistic and cultural forms. The day concluded with a prize distribution ceremony, where winners of the competitive events were awarded, and participants were recognized for their enthusiastic involvement. All WWC student coordinators and volunteers were tirelessly involved for smooth running of the entire event. Finally, on behalf of WWC, Aarushi Srivastava, the student coordinator, conveyed the vote of thanks to everyone for their support and active participation. The Shakti Carnival was a resounding success, leaving attendees inspired and already looking forward to the next edition.