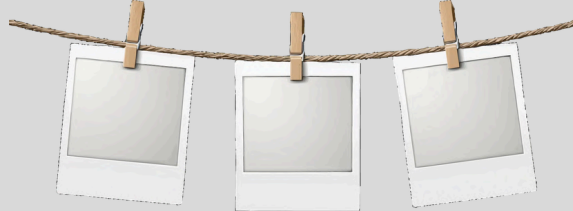


Two-Day National Conclave on NPST and NMM Roll-out

A Two-Day National Conclave on Capacity Building of Stakeholders for the Nationwide Roll-out of the National Professional Standards for Teachers (NPST) and the National Mission for Mentoring (NMM) was successfully held at IIT Bhubaneswar. Organized by the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE), a statutory body under the Ministry of Education, Government of India, the programme was conducted in collaboration with IIT Bhubaneswar, on 13th-14th March 2026. The conclave was organized as part of the ongoing implementation of the National Education Policy 2020, which emphasizes strengthening teacher professionalism, mentoring support, and continuous professional development for teachers across the country. A message from Dharmendra Pradhan, Hon'ble Union Minister of Education, and a video message from Jayant Chaudhary, Hon'ble Minister of State for Education, were shared with the participants in the inaugural session.





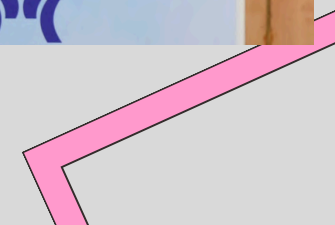
The programme included a Welcome Address by Prof. V. Pandu Ranga, Dean (Continuing Education), IIT Bhubaneswar, followed by an overview of the National Conclave delivered by D. K. Chaturvedi, Academic Advisor, NCTE.

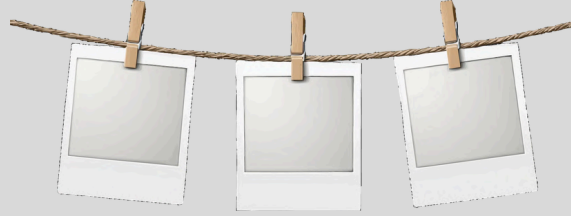


The Opening Address was delivered by Shreepad Karmalkar, Director, IIT Bhubaneswar, who highlighted the importance of strengthening teacher capacity and aligning teacher development initiatives with the vision of NEP 2020. He emphasized that while education policies may be well conceived, their real impact depends on effective implementation. Quoting that “no nation can rise above the level of its teachers,” he underscored the need to invest in developing outstanding educators through research-based teaching practices. He added that classrooms must evolve from traditional lecture halls into “learning halls” that foster collaborative learning, critical thinking, and innovation among students. IIT Bhubaneswar is implementing all these ideas.



The Keynote Address by Professor Pankaj Arora, Chairperson of National Council for Teacher Education, highlighted the transformative potential of NPST and NMM under NEP 2020 in strengthening teacher professionalism and mentoring ecosystems. He described the conclave as a reflection of the diversity of India’s education system, bringing together educators and policymakers from eastern and northeastern states, and underscored teachers as the “torchbearers” of the system.

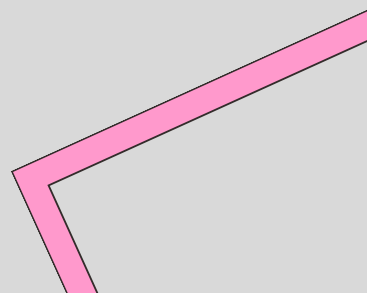
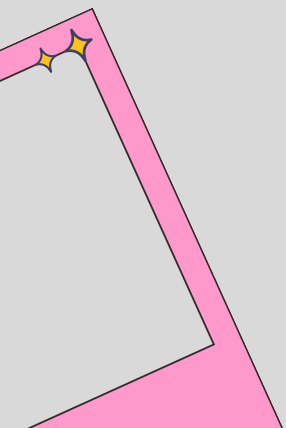


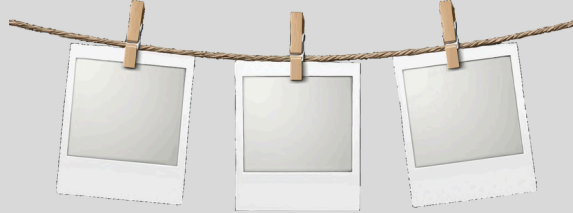


In his address, Dr. Hari Babu Kambhampati highlighted the crucial role of teachers in shaping the nation's future and appreciated the efforts of National Council for Teacher Education in building a structured framework for teacher professional development and mentoring. He noted that the gathering reflects “the strength and diversity of India's education ecosystem” and described teachers as the “torchbearers” of the system. Emphasizing initiatives such as NPST and NMM under NEP 2020, he stressed that empowering educators is key to strengthening classrooms and shaping the nation's future.



The conclave brought together key stakeholders from Eastern States, including officials from Departments of School Education, SCERTs, DIETs, State/UT Nodal Officers, and representatives from central and state school systems including KVS, NVS, CBSE, and State Boards from Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Odisha, Sikkim, Tripura, and West Bengal. The two-day programme has been designed to feature multiple technical sessions and hands-on demonstrations on the NPST and NMM frameworks and their digital platforms.



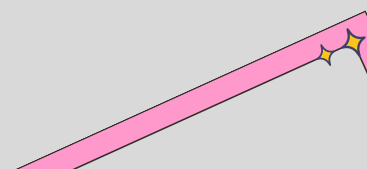


During Technical Session I, participants were introduced to the genesis and conceptual foundations of the National Professional Standards for Teachers (NPST), followed by a presentation on the plan of action and nationwide roll-out strategy. A detailed overview of the NPST Handbook and a live demonstration of the NPST Digital Portal were conducted by the NCTE team. The session was followed by hands-on onboarding and an open-house discussion, enabling participants to familiarize themselves with the digital platform and its features.



On the second day, the sessions focused on the National Mission for Mentoring (NMM), during which participants were oriented to the mission's vision, genesis, and conceptual framework. The discussions also covered the implementation roadmap for NMM, followed by a live demonstration of the NMM Digital Portal by the NCTE team. The interactive sessions were designed to enable participants to gain practical exposure to the digital platforms and provide an opportunity for clarifications and feedback regarding the implementation process.

Participants were also engaged in hands-on practice sessions, interactive discussions, and experience-sharing, enabling them to better understand the operational aspects of NPST and NMM implementation. The conclave concluded with a Valedictory Session, where key insights from the discussions were summarized, and participants reaffirmed their commitment to advancing teacher professional standards and mentoring frameworks in alignment with NEP 2020. The event marks an important milestone in strengthening institutional preparedness and building a collaborative ecosystem for the nationwide rollout of NPST and NMM, reinforcing NCTE's commitment to improving the quality of teacher education across the country.



Engineer Behind Chenab Railway Bridge Shares Inspiring Journey at IIT Bhubaneswar's International Women's Day Celebration Prof.

IIT Bhubaneswar organized an inspiring talk by Prof. G. Madhavi Latha Gali of the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru, as part of its International Women's Day celebrations, which commenced on 8th March 2026 and featured a series of activities highlighting the achievements and contributions of women. The programme held on 15th March 2026, brought together faculty members, staff, students, and their families to celebrate the spirit of women's empowerment and leadership

In his address, Prof. Shreepad Karmalkar, Director, IIT Bhubaneswar, underscored the importance of women's health and well-being, emphasizing that proper nutrition and maintaining adequate haemoglobin levels are essential for women to lead healthy lives.

He noted that the Institute has introduced supportive measures such as allowing women students engaged in projects or research to take two days of work-from-home during their menstrual cycles, reflecting its commitment to a supportive and inclusive academic environment. Encouraging women students to improve their haemoglobin levels through an appropriate diet so they can actively participate in activities such as blood donation, he stressed that everyone owes their existence to their mothers, and caring for women's basic health needs is crucial for building a healthy and responsible society.





Delivering the keynote address, Prof. Madhavi Latha Gali shared her remarkable journey from a small village of Andhra Pradesh to becoming a leading geotechnical engineer associated with the construction of the Chenab Railway Bridge, the world's highest railway bridge. Reflecting on the challenges of building the bridge 359 metres above the river in a highly seismic Himalayan region, she described how the project required extensive geotechnical investigations, slope stabilization, rock anchoring, and continuous redesign through a “design-as-you-go” approach to address complex geological conditions.

Sharing insights from her personal journey, she emphasized that success does not follow a predetermined path and encouraged students, especially young women, to pursue their aspirations with resilience and determination. “There is no template or blueprint for life—you evolve as a person as you go along,” she said, highlighting the importance of courage, perseverance, and supportive ecosystems in achieving one’s goals.



As part of the International Women’s Day Celebration, the Women Welfare Committee, in collaboration with Souls for Solace, organised a Self-Defence Camp on 8th March 2026. This camp aimed to equip the female members of the Institute with essential self-defence techniques to enhance their safety and confidence.



Dr. Anasuya Roychowdhury, Chairperson, Women Welfare Committee (WWC) spoke on the various activities being taken up by the Committee to ensure the wellbeing of the female members of the Institute. Dr. Prama Bhattacharya, Member Secretary, WWC, proposed a vote of thanks.



The winners of various competitions held earlier in the month were handed over prizes on the occasion. The students and residents of the Institute performed various cultural programmes to enthrall the audience. The WWC student team actively participated in organizing the entire event



IIT Bhubaneswar celebrates International Women's Week

As part of the International Women's Week Celebration at IIT Bhubaneswar, the Women Welfare Committee (WWC) organized a Token of Appreciation Ceremony to honour the contributions of the women workforce of the institute. The event was held on 10-11 March 2026 at the Ganga Hall of Residence.



WWC recognised the dedication and hard work of women workers (hostel staff, housekeeping staff, and security personnel) who play an important role in supporting the daily functioning of the campus. During the ceremony, tokens of appreciation were distributed as a gesture of gratitude for their valuable service to the IIT Bhubaneswar community. The event provided an opportunity to acknowledge their efforts and express appreciation for their continued commitment.

The programme concluded on a warm and positive note, reflecting the spirit of International Women's Week by recognizing and celebrating the contributions of women workers who support the campus community every day.



Quiz Competition

As part of the International Women's Week celebrations at Indian Institute of Technology Bhubaneswar, the Women Welfare Committee (WWC) organized an engaging Women-Centric Quiz Competition on 12th March, 2026 in collaboration with QuizSoc, Quizzing Society of IIT Bhubaneswar.



The quiz aimed to celebrate and highlight the remarkable achievements and contributions of women across diverse fields—science, literature, politics, arts, social reform, and many others. The initiative sought to appreciate and remember many inspiring women whose contributions to the world have often been overlooked or not given the recognition they truly deserve.

The competition consisted of two exciting rounds, testing participants on their knowledge, awareness, and quick thinking. After the preliminary stage, six teams advanced to the finals, making the final round highly competitive and engaging.





A particularly heartening aspect of the competition was the diversity among the participants and winners, with representation from students, faculty, and staff across different courses and branches, reflecting the inclusive spirit of the institute.



Winners of the Quiz Competition:

- 1. 1st Place: Bhavya (PhD) and Shardul Vora (B.Tech)
- 2. 2nd Place: Dr. Meenu Ramadas (Faculty) and Mrs. Kavita Lenka (Staff)
- 3. 3rd Place: Divyanshu Dubey (B.Tech) and Sriram G (ITEP)

The winners were announced at the end of the event. The quiz concluded on a cheerful note with refreshments provided to all participants and attendees, allowing everyone to celebrate the spirit of learning, appreciation, and empowerment together.

The event successfully combined knowledge, celebration, and recognition, making it a meaningful addition to the International Women’s Day Week celebrations.



Debate Competition

As part of the International Women's week celebrations at IIT Bhubaneswar, the Women Welfare Committee organized an engaging and thought-provoking Debate Competition on the topic: "Ensuring women's rights requires transformation in the social mindset, not just legislation."



The debate witnessed enthusiastic participation from the IIT Bhubaneswar fraternity. Participants presented well-structured arguments supported by strong reasoning, real-world examples, and impactful perspectives. The competition featured compelling speeches, sharp rebuttals, and insightful counter-arguments, making the session intellectually stimulating and engaging for the audience.

Throughout the debate, participants discussed various dimensions of women's rights, highlighting how deeply rooted social stereotypes, cultural norms, and biases continue to shape the lived experiences of women. While the importance of laws and policies was acknowledged, several speakers emphasized that true and lasting change can only occur when society collectively transforms its mindset toward gender equality.

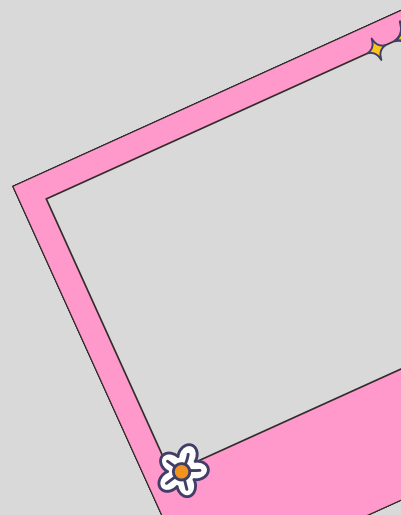
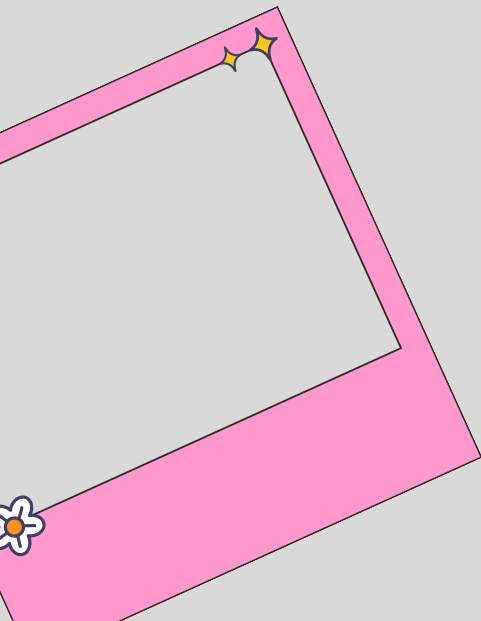
One of the notable points of discussion during the debate was the recent discourse around the Chief Justice of India's stance on menstrual leave, which sparked thoughtful conversations about policy, workplace equity, and the broader social attitudes surrounding women's health and rights.

The judges, Dr. Sreetama Misra and Dr. Ashna Jacob from School of Humanities, Social Sciences and Management, IIT Bhubaneswar appreciated the participants for their clarity of thought, confidence, and ability to critically examine complex social issues. They also suggested that participants could further refine their arguments by supporting their points with relevant case studies and by structuring their responses in a clear flow of statement, example, and assertion to make their arguments more impactful and persuasive. The session concluded with valuable remarks from the judges, highlighting the importance of constructive dialogue in fostering awareness and social change.

After careful deliberation, the winners of the debate competition were announced:

- First Prize: Kushagra Singh (1st Year, B.Tech.) and Saswati Soumya Mohapatra (PhD)
- Second Prize: Mayuk Doshi (1st Year, B.Tech.) and Ahana Kar (1st Year B.Tech.)

The event concluded on a celebratory note with the announcement of winners, followed by refreshments provided to all participants and attendees. The debate served as a meaningful platform for exchanging ideas and reflecting on the collective responsibility of society in ensuring true gender equality.





Painting, Photography, Creative and Quote writing competitions

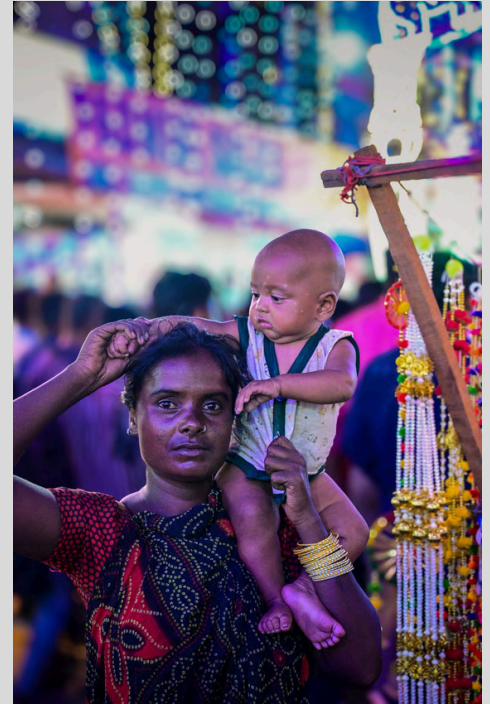
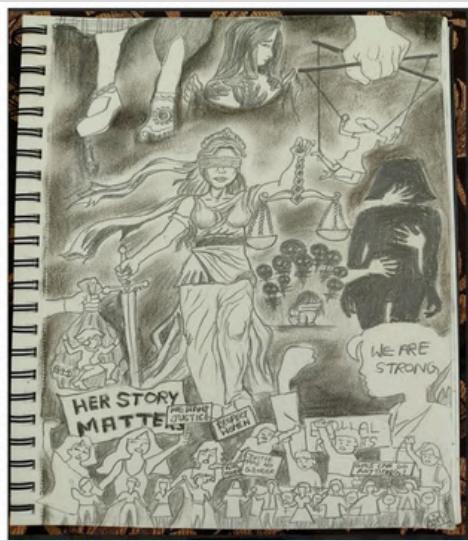
As part of the International Women’s Week celebrations, the Women Welfare Committee organized a series of online competitions to encourage creativity, reflection, and engagement across the community. The competitions included painting, photography, creative and quote writing. The topic was: “Rights. Justice. Action. For ALL Women and Girls”- the theme for International Women’s Day 2026, as a part of global campaign.

The initiative witnessed enthusiastic participation from individuals belonging to diverse backgrounds, including students, faculty members, staff, and campus residents. Each competition provided participants with an opportunity to interpret the theme in their own unique way—through visuals, words, and artistic expression. The entries highlighted important perspectives on gender equality, empowerment, and the collective responsibility to ensure rights and justice for women and girls everywhere.

Through thoughtful paintings, compelling photographs, inspiring stories, and impactful quotes, participants showcased creativity while also bringing attention to the ongoing need for action toward an inclusive and equitable society. The competitions not only celebrated talent within the community but also fostered meaningful dialogue on the values and ideals that International Women’s Day represents.

The judges, Mrs Shruti Paraskar Karmalkar (painting), Dr. Amrita Satapathy (creative and quote writing) and Mrs. Dharitri Satapathy (photography) warmly congratulate the winners and appreciate the efforts of all participants. The participants approached the theme with sincerity, imagination, and sensitivity. Some paintings stood out for their visual storytelling, effective use of colour and composition, and originality.





The winners of the various competitions were announced:

- Painting

First Prize: Bindusmita Parhi (ITEP)

Second Prize: Soumi Bandyopadhyay (Ph.D.)

Third Prize: P.S. Aishwarya (ITEP) and Dr. Manaswini Behera (Faculty)

- Photography

First Prize: Dr. Manaswini Behera (Faculty)

Second Prize: Soumyaranjan Das (Staff)

Creative Writing

First Prize: Soumi Bandyopadhyay (Ph.D.)

Second Prize: Y Monalisa (B.Tech)

Third Prize: Nida Farheen (Staff)

- Quote Writing

Dr. Meenu Ramadas (Faculty)

Overall, the online competitions served as a vibrant platform for expression and awareness, reflecting the spirit of the celebration and reinforcing the commitment to rights, justice, and action for all women and girls.

IIT Bhubaneswar enters into agreement with Skill Development Institute Bhubaneswar to Strengthen Industry-Oriented Skill Development



signed an MoU with Skill Development Institute Bhubaneswar on 19th March 2026 to collaborate on skill development, technical education, and industry-aligned training. The MoU was exchanged between Prof. Shreepad Karmalkar and Shri Ranjan Bhowmick, in the presence of senior officials from both institutions. The partnership aims to combine IIT Bhubaneswar's academic expertise with SDIB's industry-oriented training ecosystem to enhance employability and build a skilled workforce aligned with national priorities under the Skill India Mission.

Speaking on this occasion, Prof. Karmalkar said: "Under this MoU, IIT Bhubaneswar will extend academic and technical support to SDIB in multiple areas, including curriculum design, trainer development, knowledge sharing, and the establishment of state-of-the-art laboratories and training infrastructure. This collaboration is in line with the National Education Policy-2020 and will focus on promoting innovation, entrepreneurship, and best practices in skill development." In his remarks, Shri Ranjan Bhowmick highlighted that the partnership focuses on empowering unemployed and underprivileged youth with industry-relevant technical skills. He noted that Skill Development Institute Bhubaneswar, promoted by oil PSUs under the aegis of the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, aims to train over 50,000 youth in the next decade, and that the collaboration will be implemented through joint mechanisms to ensure effective knowledge exchange and capacity building.

The MoU also provides opportunities for IIT Bhubaneswar students to undertake internships and engage in hands-on learning, including prototype development and practical exposure to industry-relevant challenges

IIT Bhubaneswar Signs MoU with Bhaktivedanta Research Centre to Advance Interdisciplinary Research and Indian Knowledge Systems



IIT Bhubaneswar signed an MoU with Bhaktivedanta Research Centre on 19th March 2026 to promote academic collaboration in Indian Knowledge Systems, philosophy, digital humanities, and interdisciplinary research. The agreement was signed by Prof. Dinakar Pasla and Dr. Sumanta Rudra, in the presence of faculty and officials. The MoU reflects a shared commitment to advancing education, research, and knowledge dissemination by leveraging the complementary strengths of both institutions.

Under this collaboration, IIT Bhubaneswar and Bhaktivedanta Research Centre will jointly undertake academic and research initiatives, including conferences, workshops, seminars, lecture series, and outreach programmes. The partnership will also enable joint research, publications, and interdisciplinary work integrating humanities, social sciences, and technology, with a key focus on advancing digital humanities and manuscript studies through digitisation, textual analysis, and development of digital research tools and repositories.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Dinakar Pasla noted that the collaboration will strengthen scholarly exchange, capacity building, and global discourse on Indian knowledge traditions, ethics, and sustainability. Dr. Sumanta Rudra added that it will significantly advance the Indian Knowledge System, with both institutions committed to meaningful contributions. The partnership marks a key step in bridging traditional knowledge with contemporary academic and technological frameworks, reinforcing IIT Bhubaneswar's focus on interdisciplinary excellence and cultural scholarship.

IIT Bhubaneswar shines at World Water Day Conclave

Dr. Manaswini Behera, Associate Professor, School of Infrastructure received prestigious Jal Shakti Hackathon 2025 Award amounting INR 1,00,000 from Shri C.R. Patil, the Hon'ble Minister of Jal Shakti (MoJS), during World Water Conclave on the occasion of World Water Day on 23rd March 2026 at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre (DAIC), New Delhi for the project proposal titled "Next-Generation Decentralized Domestic Wastewater Treatment: An Anammox-Moving Bed Biological Reactor for efficient Organic and Nitrogen Removal". This hackathon was organised under Bharat WIN, a national initiative of the Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India



Prof. Rajesh Roshan Dash, Professor, School of Infrastructure received prestigious Jal Shakti Hackathon 2025 Award amounting INR 1,00,000 from Shri C.R. Patil, the Hon'ble Minister of Jal Shakti (MoJS), during World Water Conclave on the occasion of World Water Day on 23rd March 2026 at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre (DAIC), New Delhi for the project proposal titled "Valorisation of Sewage Sludge and Agricultural Residues into FCO Compliant Soil Conditioners and Slow-Release Fertilisers for Sustainable Agriculture". This hackathon was organised under Bharat WIN, a national initiative of the Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India.



IIT Bhubaneswar Hosts Aspire Programme in Collaboration with UltraTech Cement

IIT Bhubaneswar, in collaboration with UltraTech Cement Limited, organized 'Aspire', a unique outreach and engagement initiative aimed at fostering knowledge exchange and expanding access to institutional expertise for aspiring youth from the construction fraternity. The programme held on 17th March 2026 sought to inspire and empower participants to envision pathways to premier institutions through guided interaction, exposure, and mentorship. Around 50 students studying in 9th to 12th Standards, along with their guardians, visited the campus of IIT Bhubaneswar. The programme began with a formal inaugural session, including context setting, ceremonial lamp lighting, and addresses by distinguished dignitaries. The event was graced by Prof. Shreepad Karmalkar, Director, IIT Bhubaneswar; Prof. Rajesh Roshan Dash, Dean (Student Affairs); and Prof. Dinakar Pasla, Dean (Sponsored Research & Industrial Consultancy) of the Institute; Mr. Intekhab Alam, Zonal Head – Marketing, UltraTech Cement Ltd. (East B); Er. Pradip Kumar Jha, Zonal Head – TASC, UltraTech Cement Ltd. (East B).





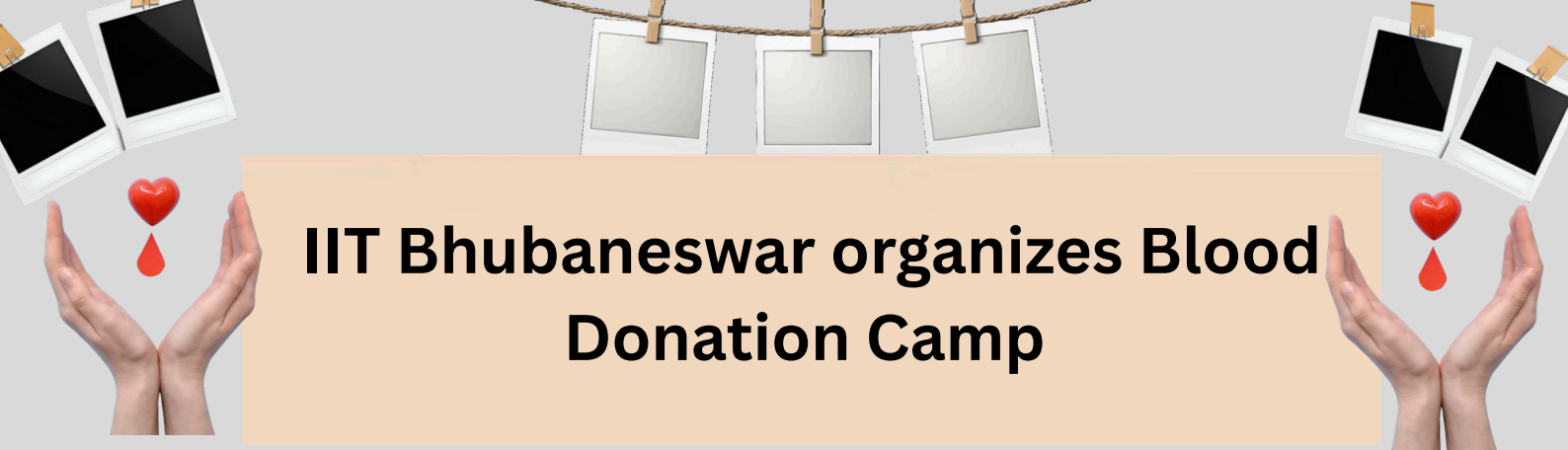
Delivering a forward-looking and impactful message, Prof. Shreepad Karmalkar emphasized the need for students to rise above perceived limitations and cultivate self-belief, discipline, and clarity of purpose. Drawing from the interaction themes, he highlighted that “while access to resources may vary, it is ultimately faith in one’s abilities and sustained determination that enable individuals to find their own pathways to success. Students must focus on expanding their capacity rather than comparing themselves with others.”



Reinforcing the ethos of aspiration, speakers encouraged students to recognize and protect their talent, remain curious, and actively engage in learning opportunities, while also creating an open environment for dialogue through interactive Q&A sessions. Industry representatives highlighted the value of discipline, consistency, and hard work over short-term motivation, sharing real-life journeys of growth driven by perseverance and experiential learning, particularly in sectors where formal training pathways have evolved over time



A panel interaction with IIT students provided practical insights into navigating competitive examinations and academic journeys. The discussion underscored the importance of strategic planning, right orientation, and sustained preparation, especially in the context of increasing competition and limited opportunities. The day concluded with a guided tour of IIT Bhubaneswar’s state-of-the-art facilities, providing attendees with exposure to the institute’s academic and research ecosystem. The Aspire Programme stands as a testament to the shared commitment of IIT Bhubaneswar and UltraTech Cement Limited to empower young minds, bridge industry-academia gaps, and foster a culture of aspiration, resilience, and excellence



IIT Bhubaneswar organizes Blood Donation Camp

The National Service Scheme (NSS) team of IIT Bhubaneswar organised the voluntary blood donation camp (UMEED 6.0) on 14th March 2026, at the Community Center, IIT Bhubaneswar, in association with Sanjeevan Health Center of the Institute. A total of 122 units of blood were collected during the camp, held at the community center inside the Institute campus.

Prof. Shreepad Karmalkar, Director of IIT Bhubaneswar, graced the occasion and motivated the donors and encouraged the NSS volunteers

Among others, Shri Bamadev Acharya, Registrar, Dr. Seema Bahinipati, Professor-in-Charge (Healthcare), along with the members of Sanjeevan Health Centre of IIT Bhubaneswar, Dr. Saujanya Pradhan, Doctor, Capital Hospital, and Shri Kailash Sarangi, Secretary, NGO Sahaya, were present on the occasion. Dr. Sivaiah Bathula, NSS Coordinator, led the camp. Faculty, staff, students, and residents of the Institute participated in this initiative and donated blood.



General Championship-2026 Inauguration



The Inaugural Ceremony of General Championship 2026 marked a vibrant beginning to one of the most anticipated events of the Spring Semester, held on 20th March 2026.

Celebrating the 5th Anniversary of the General Championship, the evening featured an impressive March Past by all eight houses, a ceremonial Torch Run led by distinguished student achievers, and the proud hosting of the GC flag.

The ceremony set the tone for the days ahead—reflecting unity, sportsmanship, and the indomitable spirit of the student community.



IIT Bhubaneswar organizes plantation drive to mark International Day of Forests

To mark the International Day of Forests, IIT Bhubaneswar organised a mass plantation drive in its premises on 21 March 2026. The members of the Institute participated in the drive in large numbers with enthusiasm and vigour and planted about 200 avenue, fruitbearing and ornamental saplings in the IIT Bhubaneswar campus.



Shri Bamadev Acharya, Registrar; Senior Faculty Members and Shri K. Rabin Kumar Dora, Superintending Engineer of IIT Bhubaneswar led the plantation drive and planted saplings. Mr K.V. Reddy, Horticulturist, coordinated the event.





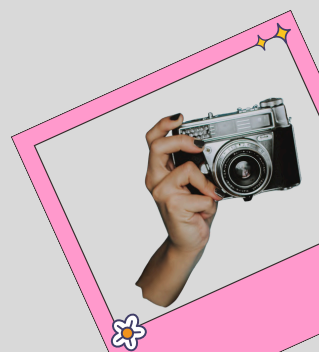
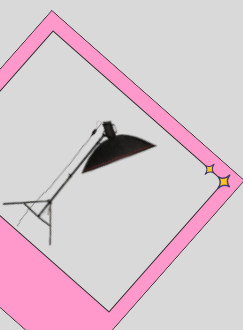
Nikon Photography workshop



Through the Lens, A New Perspective

Clix, the photography society of IIT Bhubaneswar, in collaboration with Nikon India, conducted a photography workshop that made learning both simple and creative.

From understanding shutter speed, aperture, and ISO to seeing the world in a new way through the lens, participants explored how every click can tell a story.





**"The doors we open and close each day decide the lives we live."
— Flora Whittemore**