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IITBBS Express

Events • Achievements • Expressions

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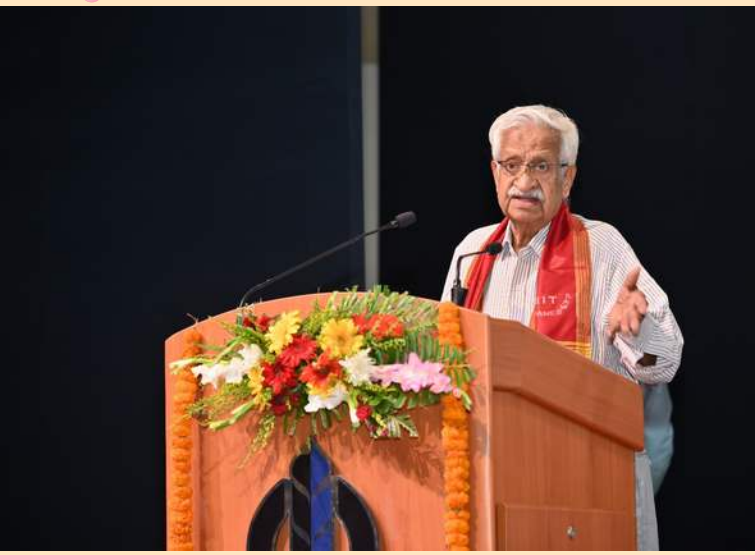


IIT Bhubaneswar organises the 14th Convocation

IIT Bhubaneswar has organised its 14th Convocation on 18th April 2026. Prof. V. S. Ramamurthy, Padma Bhushan Awardee; Former Secretary, Dept. of Science & Technology, Govt. of India and Former Director, Institute of Physics, Bhubaneswar graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and delivered the Convocation address. Prof. Shreepad Karmalkar, Director, IIT Bhubaneswar presented the Convocation report and awarded the degrees to the students.

During this Convocation, the Institute conferred degrees on 802 students out of which 96 (12%) PhD, 177 (22%) M. Tech, 96 (12%) M.Sc, 102 (13%) Dual Degree (B. Tech & M. Tech), and 325 (41%) B. Tech for the academic year 2024-25. It was a proud moment for the graduating students, their parents, the faculty and staff members and the administration of the institute.

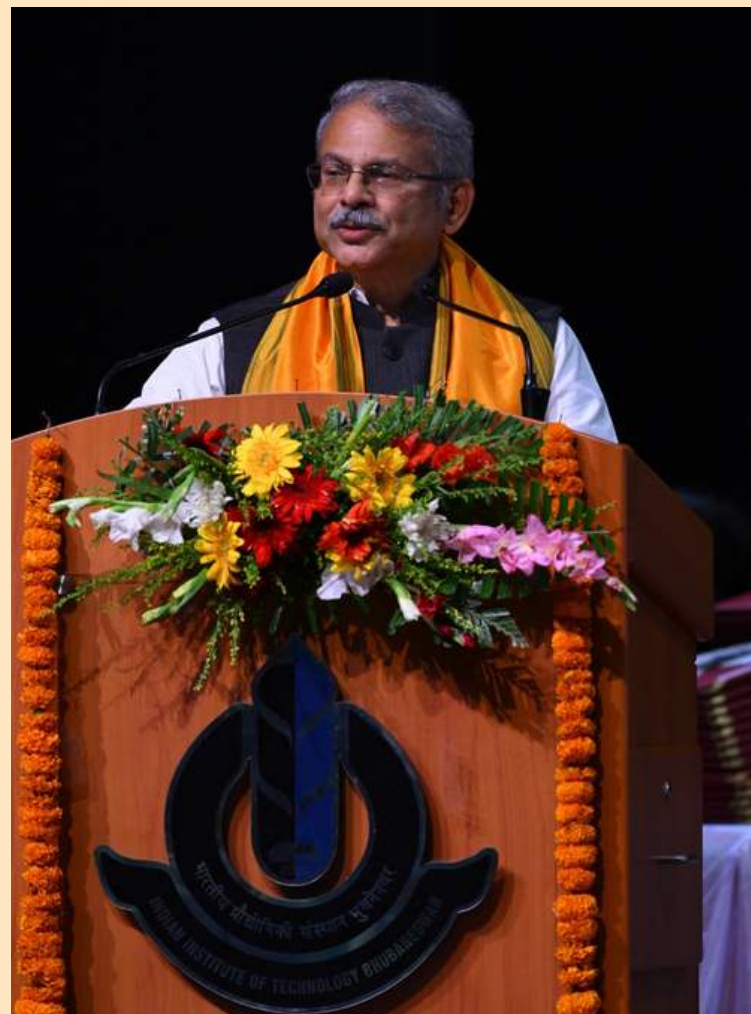




Addressing the graduating students, the Chief Guest emphasized that excellence is not optional but a commitment—‘whatever you do, do it well’—urging them to strive to lead and make a mark in their chosen paths. Drawing on the landmark discovery of the Higgs boson, he highlighted how transformative breakthroughs are built on longterm vision, perseverance, and large-scale global collaboration rather than isolated effort. He underscored India’s

growing role as an equal partner in international scientific missions, noting that the country’s contributions today are competitive in both quality and impact. Calling for a shift in mindset, he urged institutions like IITs to move beyond boundaries, embrace global collaboration, and adopt ‘cooperation while competing’ as the defining mantra for advancing research and innovation.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Shreepad Karmalkar, Director, IIT Bhubaneswar, presented a detailed report on the various efforts and achievements of the Institute since the previous convocation. He said, “The institute has grown significantly in the last couple of years. It has strengthened its infrastructure, research footprint, industry-academia collaborations, and startup ecosystem, alongside sustainability initiatives. Its 2025 NIRF Engineering rank has jumped by 15 steps to 39 compared to the previous year, and its overall rank has jumped by more than 20 steps. Looking ahead, we remain focused on interdisciplinary research, global partnerships, and preparing graduates to lead in a rapidly transforming technological landscape, contributing meaningfully to society.”



Prof. Karmalkar read out the message of Dr. Rajendra Prasad Singh, Chairman, Board of Governors, IIT Bhubaneswar, in his absence.



The following awards were presented to the best-performing students during the convocation.

- **President of India Gold Medal:** Shri Varun Varma Jaganath of the Mechanical Engineering for the best academic performance among all the B.Tech students
- **Director's Gold Medals for Best Academic Performances:**
 - Dual Degree (B.Tech and M.Tech):** Ms. Vedanta Mohapatra of Computer Science and Engineering branch
 - M.Tech:** Shri Harsh Neel Mani of Computer Science and Engineering branch
 - M.Sc.:** Ms. Anannya Bhowmik of Chemistry
- **Institute Silver Medals for Best Academic Performances in different branches:**
 - B.Tech.:** Shri Saikat Mondal; Shri Gunda Anish; Shri Rahul Agrawal; Shri Harikrishnan A.; Shri Varun Varma Jaganath; Ms. Adrija Patra
- **Dual Degree:** Shri Vedanta Mohapatra; Shri Vardhan Mittal, Shri Rahul Agrawal; Ms. Parthvi Jain and Shri Shashikant Verma
- **M.Tech:** Shri Arpan Bhattacharjee; Shri Harsh Neel Mani; Shri Prabhatangshu Phukan; Shri Anuvindh R.; Shri Vamaravelli Lokesh; Shri Jyoti Prakash Paramanik; Shri B Bharath Kumar
- **M.Sc.:** Ms. Alankita Nag; Shri Ankit Kumar Mishra; Shri Anannya Bhowmik; Shri Amit Basak; Shri Ajit Prasad Mahapatra

- **Endowment Awards:**

- **Dr. K. Kasturirangan Award for the best Male Graduate:** Shri Varun Varma Jaganath, Mechanical Engineering
- **Prof. P. Rama Rao Award for the best Lady Graduate :** Ms. Adrija Patra, Metallurgical and Materials Engineering
- **Dinesh Memorial Award for the best B.Tech Thesis in Mechanical Sciences:** Shri Badvelu Pranay Prabha, School of Mechanical Sciences
- **B. K. De Memorial Award for the best B.Tech Thesis:** Shri Indrayudh Ghosh, Electronics and Communication Engineering
- **Tejaswi Memorial Award for best B.Tech Thesis in Electrical and Computer Sciences:** Shri Ayush Pratap Singh and Shri Indrayudh Ghosh, School of Electrical & Computer Sciences



Utkal Diwas

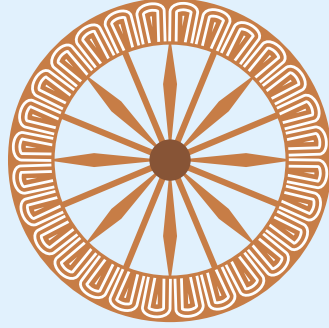


IIT Bhubaneswar has celebrated Utkal Diwas in a grand manner. Shri Tarun Kanti Mishra, IAS (Retd.), Former Chief Secretary of Odisha and an eminent Odia Writer graced the occasion as the chief guest. Prof. Shreepad Karmalkar, Director, IIT Bhubaneswar and Shri Bamadev Acharya, Registrar of the Institute, were also present.



Prof. Karmalkar delivered a part of his speech in Odia, though his mother tongue is not Odia. He described his experience in Odisha during more than three years of his stay in Odisha. He stated that the day “marks not merely the formation of a state, but reflects a cultural identity, linguistic unity, and collective aspirations of the people of Odisha.” He highlighted that the institute is “actively engaged in preserving and promoting the rich cultural heritage” of the state through cultural initiatives, research on indigenous knowledge systems, and support for local arts and entrepreneurship. Reaffirming its vision, he noted that IIT Bhubaneswar aims to align research and innovation with regional priorities and emerge as “a beacon of transformative impact” for Odisha and the nation.





In his address to the gathering, Chief Guest Shri Tarun Kanti Mishra delved into the importance of language and preservation of linguistic diversity for the existence of a community and a nation, as a whole. He cited several examples from across the world and mentioned how various languages have evolved and how they have contributed towards the growth of mankind. He emphasized the critical importance of preserving languages as carriers of culture, identity, and thought. Highlighting examples of endangered languages across the world, he cautioned against the gradual loss of linguistic heritage and stressed that “each language has a duty—it communicates our thoughts and also protects them.” He urged the younger generation to take pride in their roots, noting that there is “no conflict between learning global languages and loving one’s mother tongue.” Encouraging students to value their linguistic heritage, he appealed, “Love your mother tongue, love your language,” underscoring that it remains central to identity and continuity.

At the outset, Registrar Shri Bamadev Acharya delivered the welcome address and cherished the rich legacy and heritage of the land of Odisha. Citing examples from ancient literature and the work of the great literary figures of Odisha, he highlighted the richness of Odia as a language. He urged everyone to respect their mother language to contribute towards the strong future of our motherland.





A vibrant cultural programme by the members of the Institute showcased the spirit of the occasion and enthralled the audience.



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NHRC Special Monitor Visits IIT Bhubaneswar



IIT Bhubaneswar hosted Prof. Kanhaiya Tripathi, Special Monitor, National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), Government of India, on 24th March 2026. The visit focused on reviewing the Institute's initiatives related to human rights, gender equality, inclusivity, and community welfare. The visit commenced with an interaction with the Institute leadership, led by Prof. Shreepad Karmalkar, Director, IIT Bhubaneswar, followed by a formal session at the Senate Hall, where a detailed presentation was made on IIT Bhubaneswar's institutional mechanisms for promoting a safe, equitable, and inclusive campus environment.

Addressing the gathering, Prof. Rajesh Roshan Dash, Dean (Student Affairs) emphasized the Institute's commitment to fostering a culture of dignity, equality, and mutual respect, noting that inclusivity is embedded not only in policy frameworks but also in everyday institutional practices.





Presenting the initiatives, Dr. Prama Bhattacharya, Member Secretary, Women Welfare Committee of the Institute, highlighted the role of statutory bodies such as the Internal Complaints Committee (ICC) and the Women's Welfare Committee (WWC), along with a range of programmes aimed at gender sensitization, student well-being, and inclusive growth. The presentation also showcased healthcare services, mental wellness support, outreach to adopted villages, and welfare measures for migrant workers' families.



In his remarks, Prof. Tripathi appreciated the Institute's comprehensive approach to human rights and inclusivity, observing that the campus environment and initiatives reflect a progressive and holistic model not commonly seen across institutions. Drawing from his visits to other premier institutions, he noted that IIT Bhubaneswar stands out for integrating infrastructure, awareness, and sensitivity toward human rights. He underscored that human rights must go beyond formal structures and become part of everyday consciousness, emphasizing dignity and equality in both perception and practice. Interacting with the audience, he highlighted the need for greater awareness among students regarding human rights and encouraged institutions to strengthen engagement in this area. Prof. Tripathi also suggested the development of a dedicated platform for human rights initiatives within the Institute, integrating activities related to gender equality, social justice, and awareness. He further emphasized the importance of role models and symbolic representation, recommending that contributions of prominent figures in human rights be showcased to inspire students



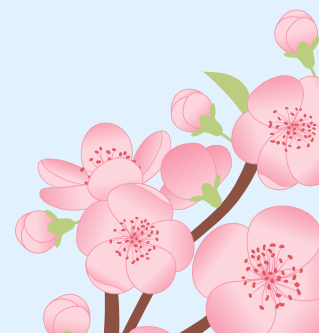
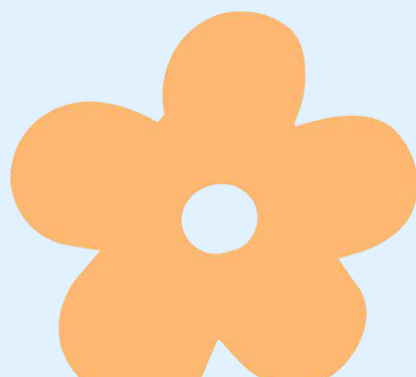
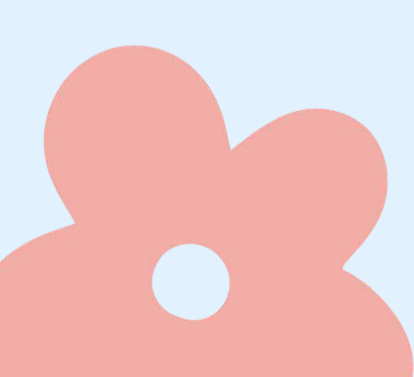
The session concluded with a vote of thanks by Shri Bamadev Acharya, Registrar of the Institute, who reiterated the Institute's commitment to advancing inclusive practices, community engagement, and social responsibility. He highlighted several initiatives, including leadership opportunities for women, outreach to migrant workers' families, environmental stewardship, and efforts to promote dignity and respect across all sections of the campus community. Dr. Anasuya Roychowdhury, Chairperson, Women Welfare Committee coordinated the visit



The visit also included an interaction with students at the Ganga Hall of Residence, one of the Girls' Hostels of IIT Bhubaneswar, providing an opportunity for direct dialogue on campus life and awareness of rights.



The visit of the Special Monitor, NHRC, Govt. of India marks an important milestone in IIT Bhubaneswar's ongoing efforts to strengthen its role as a socially responsible and inclusive institution, committed to promoting human rights, equality, and holistic well-being.



IIT Bhubaneswar receives Certified Green Audit Recognition

IIT Bhubaneswar has successfully completed a comprehensive Green Audit of its campus and has been awarded a Green Audit Certificate in accordance with the provisions of the National Building Code 2016 (Part 11) and the directives of NAAC & NABCB. This achievement marks a significant milestone in the Institute's continued commitment towards environmental sustainability and responsible campus management. The audit recorded an overall compliance score of 88.36%, indicating a commendable level of adherence to prescribed sustainability standards

The Green Audit covered key areas such as energy usage and efficiency, water management and conservation, waste management (including solid, liquid and ewaste), air quality, biodiversity and green cover, environmental awareness, and regulatory compliance. The findings highlighted the Institute's systematic implementation of sustainability practices, operational procedures promoting environmental conservation, and initiatives aimed at creating awareness among students and staff. This milestone has been made possible through the active cooperation, dedicated efforts, and continuous support of all stakeholders, including various functional units of the Institute.



Their collective contribution has played a vital role in strengthening the Institute's sustainability framework and enhancing its environmental performance. IIT Bhubaneswar remains committed to further strengthening its environmental initiatives and advancing its vision of a greener, more sustainable campus. The Institute will continue to promote responsible practices and foster a culture of sustainability in all its activities





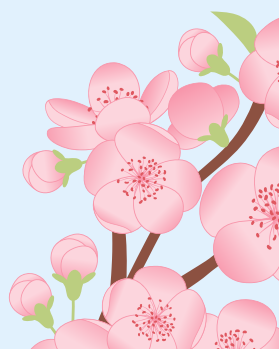
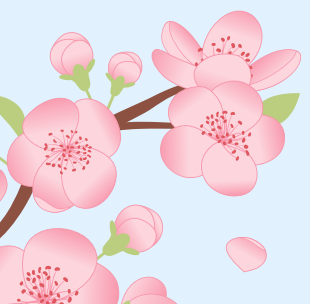
India Belle II Analysis Workshop 2.0

The Experimental High Energy Physics Group at Indian Institute of Technology Bhubaneswar, led by Dr. Seema Bahinipati, organized the India Belle II Analysis Workshop 2.0 (BAW 2.0), 2026 on April 3–4, 2026, at the Lalitgiri Hall of Learning. The previous edition of BAW was held at IIT Madras in January, 2026. The program was supported by Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR), Mumbai.



The India Belle (II) Analysis Workshop, initiated about 13 years ago at TIFR Mumbai, serves as a platform for faculty members, postdoctoral researchers, research scholars, and students from Indian institutions working on the Belle II experiment to present their work and engage in scientific discussions.

The Belle Collaboration is an international effort involving more than 400 scientists from 19 countries, working together to explore fundamental questions about the universe. Building on its success, the Belle II Collaboration has expanded significantly and now includes over 600 scientists from 23 countries contributing to the development of the Belle II detector. In India, 12 institutions are part of the Belle II Collaboration, including IIT Bhubaneswar, Panjab University, IIT Madras, IIT Guwahati, IIT Hyderabad, IIT Jodhpur, IISc. Bangalore, UPES Dehradun, MNIT Jaipur, NIT Jalandhar, IISER Mohali, and TIFR, Mumbai.





Approximately 25 faculty members and research scholars from premier institutions such as TIFR, IISER Mohali, IISc Bangalore, IIT Hyderabad, and IIT Guwahati participated in the workshop. Day 1 of the workshop was inaugurated by Prof. Gagan Mohanty (TIFR, Mumbai) Spokesperson of the India Belle II Collaboration. This was followed by a theory talk delivered by renowned particle physicist Prof. S. Uma Sankar, retired professor from Indian Institute of Technology Bombay. The day continued with presentations by research scholars on their analyses within the Belle II Collaboration. On Day 2, the India Belle II Collaboration organized an outreach program at Cohen International School. The program featured engaging talks by Dr. Vishal Bhardwaj from IISER Mohali and Dr. Jyothsnarani Komanagiri from IISc Bangalore. A key highlight was a hands-on demonstration of a “DIY Cloud Chamber detector,” offering students an exciting glimpse into particle detection techniques.

Furthermore, since the workshop witnessed the presence of eminent scientists, two seminars were organised for I.T.E.P, M.Sc.and Ph.D students and faculty members at the School of Basic Sciences by Prof. S. Uma Sankar and Dr. Vishal Bhardwaj.

Stakeholder Workshop on Urban Hydro-meteorological Hazards and Decision Support Systems

A one-day Stakeholder Workshop titled “Users’ Workshop and Future Strategies on Urban Hydro-meteorological Hazards and Decision Support Systems (DSS)” was successfully held today at Amber Hall, LyFe Hotel, Bhubaneswar. The workshop brought together key stakeholders from government agencies, academia, and research organizations to deliberate on strengthening urban resilience through advanced decision-support technologies.

The workshop marked the culmination of sustained collaborative efforts initiated in 2019 among C-DAC Pune, IIT Bhubaneswar, the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), and the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), under the National Supercomputing Mission (NSM) supported by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India.



The inaugural session featured insightful addresses from distinguished dignitaries representing academia, government, and scientific institutions. Shri Rajesh Prabhakar Patil, IAS, Managing Director, OSDMA, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest and highlighted the increasing challenges of rapid urbanisation and climate variability, underscoring the need for data-driven decision-making tools to strengthen disaster preparedness and urban resilience. The session commenced with a welcome address, followed by a contextual overview of the project by Dr. Manoj Khare, Senior Director, C-DAC Pune, who elaborated on the evolution of the integrated urban modelling initiative under the National Supercomputing Mission and its significance in addressing cascading urban climate risks. Prof. Shreepad Karmalkar, Director, IIT Bhubaneswar, emphasized the importance of collaborative, mission-mode research in translating scientific innovation into societal impact. Dr. Kamal Lochan Mishra, IAS, Executive Director, OSDMA, reflected on Odisha's progressive disaster management framework and stressed the importance of bridging the gap between scientific models and administrative implementation for effective governance. Mr. V.K. Soni from the India Meteorological Department highlighted key challenges in urban weather and air quality forecasting, while emphasizing the role of advanced modelling and inter-agency collaboration in improving forecast accuracy. The session concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Vinoj V., IIT Bhubaneswar.

At the core of the workshop was the presentation and demonstration of an integrated Decision Support System (DSS) designed to address urban hydro-meteorological challenges, including extreme heat events, intense rainfall, air quality concerns, and urban flooding. The DSS enables city-scale, data-driven decision-making to support policymakers and disaster management authorities in real time.



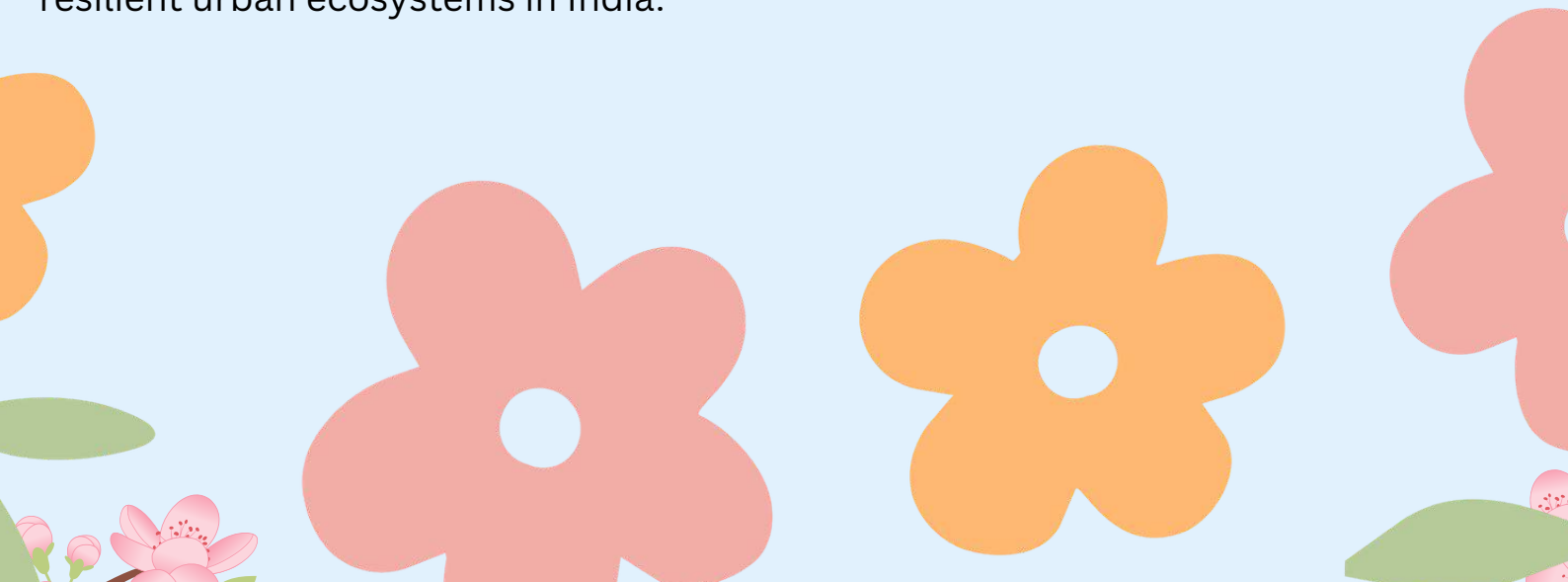


A major highlight of the workshop was the stakeholder interaction sessions, which facilitated in-depth discussions on sectoral requirements, operational challenges, and pathways for institutional adoption of the DSS. Participants actively contributed feedback aimed at refining the system and enhancing its usability for diverse end-users.

The workshop saw participation from approximately 120 stakeholders, reflecting strong interest and engagement from multiple sectors. The Odisha State Disaster Management Authority (OSDMA) played a key coordinating role in collaboration with IIT Bhubaneswar and C-DAC Pune.

The event concluded with a summary of key discussions, recommendations, and a roadmap for future strategies to further strengthen the DSS framework and its implementation at the city and state levels.

This workshop represents a significant step forward in leveraging advanced computational capabilities and interdisciplinary collaboration to build climate-resilient urban ecosystems in India.



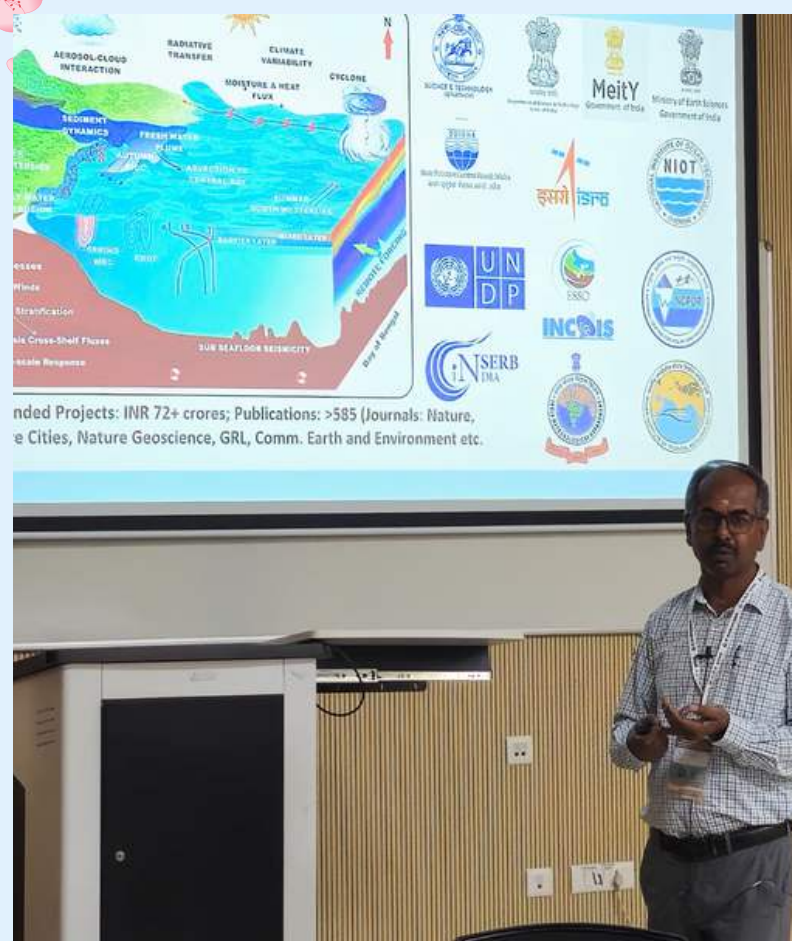
1st Stakeholders' Meet & brainstorming Session



IIT Bhubaneswar (IITBBS) organised the 1st stakeholders' meet and brainstorming session as part of its OMBRIC project "COSMOS: Coastal Odisha Systematic Mapping, Monitoring & Observations for Sustainable Development" on 28-03-2026. The meeting was attended by more than 50 participants from various Govt. and Private Institutions (CSIR-IMMT, CDA, Wildlife HQ of MoEFCC, Odisha Biodiversity Board, SPCB-Odisha, Trident Academy, RestorEarth Solutions, LIPICA Foundation, FROST-Odisha), apart from the OMBRIC partnering Institutions BRIC-ILS Bhubaneswar, IISER Berhampur and IITBBS.

The primary objective of the event was to showcase the OMBRIC project initiative (actively supported by Dept. of Science & Technology, Govt. of Odisha), and familiarise stakeholders with its goals so as to foster active collaboration with various Govt. Departments, Academic Institutions and NGOs on matters closely related to coastal observations and monitoring.





The ongoing and future proposed activities, the execution methodology and expected deliverables under COSMOS being executed by IITBBS were presented and comments and suggestions discussed so as to fine-tune the purpose and relevance of the project. The project Co-PIs and experts from inter-disciplinary and Technology Innovation Hub presented their activities and sought the involvement of prospective collaborators in furthering the goals of OMBRIC project. Very fruitful discussions among all stakeholders marked each session with newer ideas and mode of result and knowledge dissemination and capacity building ideas being discussed.



The participants emphasized the need for more such “Stakeholders specific” workshops for better benefits of the project to the society in general and coastal communities of Odisha in particular. IITBBS places on record its gratitude to all the participating institutions as well as DST-Govt. of Odisha for facilitation of this highly forward looking initiative. The stakeholders’ meet was convened and coordinated by Dr. D. Swain (SEOCS) with the guidance of Dr. R. K. Singh (HoS, SEOCS) and Dr. S. H. Farooq (PI, SEOCS). The programme was actively supported by Dr. D. Dey, Dr. B. Mahanta, Dr. A. Sattar, Dr. S. Sil, Dr. Vinoj V. (faculty members from SEOCS), Dr. Y. Bhumkar (faculty member from SMMME), Dr. P. Acharya (RA, SEOCS) and Research Scholars of SEOCS.



Industrial Visit



Material recovery facility at palasuni visted by Solid Waste Mangement subject enrolled students (M.Tech and Dual degree Environmental Engineering students on 10th April 2026. The course teachers Dr. Manaswini Behera and Prof. Rajesh Roshan Dash have accompanied the students for the industrial visit.



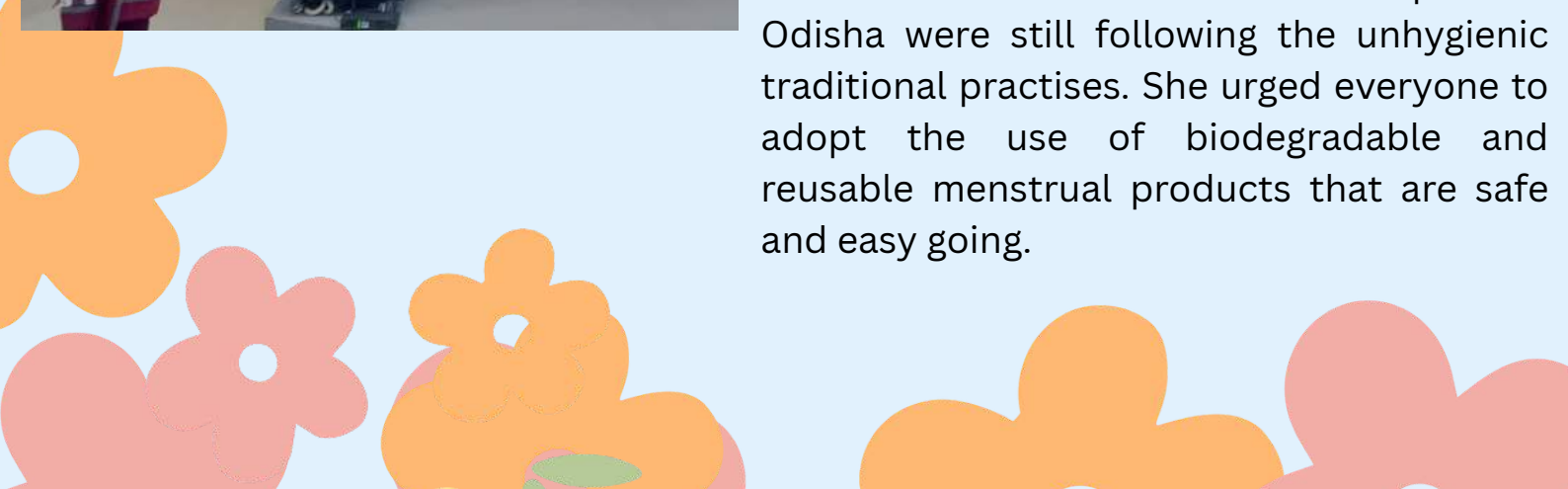


Report on Awareness Program on Reusable Menstrual Products

The Women's Welfare Committee, in collaboration with Research and Entrepreneurship Park, IIT Bhubaneswar successfully organized an awareness programme on Reusable Menstrual Products for Menstrual Health & Hygiene on 13th April, 2026 under the Initiative Project Period. The objective of the programme was to create awareness among young girls and women about the menstrual hygiene, period cycle, sustainability and use of eco-friendly sanitary pads.



The Pad Girl of Odisha Ms. Payal Patel, Founder of Prasanta Enterprises graced the programme as chief guest. In her speech, she shared her journey how she got into this field and started creating awareness about menstrual hygiene, sustainability, and use of eco-friendly sanitary pads in the rural areas. She added how challenging it was to educate people who were hesitant to even talk on this topic. So, she encouraged everyone to normalize communicating and sharing menstrual problems. She also mentioned that women in some part of Odisha were still following the unhygienic traditional practises. She urged everyone to adopt the use of biodegradable and reusable menstrual products that are safe and easy going.





At the outset, Dr Seema Bahiniapti, delivered the welcome address and shared the institute's ongoing efforts through Project Period, including last year's Menstrual Health and Hygiene Conclave.

There was an interactive and engaging session where all the participants asked their doubts and queries related to reusable menstrual products and the pros and cons of its use.

Ms. Shabina Khatoon, Program and Operations Head, REP delivered the Vote of Thanks and acknowledged each and every participant and contributor who helped in making this event successful and announced the upcoming Menstrual Health Conclave 2.0 in 2026

Session Conducted under Vigyan Jyoti STEM Programme

A session was successfully conducted as part of the Vigyan Jyoti STEM Programme with the objective of promoting awareness and interest in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) among students. The programme primarily aimed at encouraging young learners, especially girls, to explore career opportunities in STEM fields and develop a scientific temperament.



Shri Rabi Kumar Patnaik, Career Development and Placement Officer, conducted the career counselling session at JNV, Mundali, as part of this programme. The session covered various topics, including the importance of STEM education, emerging career opportunities, and the role of innovation and technology in addressing real-world challenges. The session showcased different examples in pursuing career aspects in STEM, aiming to motivate participants and challenge prevailing stereotypes.



To enhance engagement, the session incorporated interactive discussions, question-and-answer segments, and activity-based learning. Students actively participated, shared their ideas, and demonstrated keen interest throughout the session.

The programme also emphasized the development of critical thinking, problem-solving skills, and digital literacy, which are essential for future-ready learners. Overall, the session was informative, interactive, and highly beneficial for the participants, leaving them motivated to pursue STEM education and careers.



उत्तिष्ठत जाग्रत प्राप्य वरान्निबोधत।
Uttiṣṭhata jāgrata prāpya varān nibodhata

—from the Katha Upanishad

Arise, awake, and stop not until the goal is achieved.

