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Utkal University Student bags 13 Gold Medals



Sweta Padma Swain, an MBBS student of Hi-Tech Medical College & Hospital in Bhubaneswar, received 13 gold medals at the 52nd convocation of Utkal University on 23rd December 2022.

Sweta Padma Swain had secured the highest marks in medicine, obstetrics and gynaecology, surgery, forensic medicine and toxicology, pharmacology, ENT and community medicine. She aims to pursue career in the field of dermatology, paediatrics, or obstetrics and gynaecology.

Including Swain, gold medals were awarded to 99 students for their outstanding academic performance in various disciplines. Rajat Kumar Mishra, a law graduate of University Law College received five gold medals.

A gold medal each was awarded to five MBBS graduates of SCB Medical College and Hospital in Cuttack. As many as 163 scholars received their PhD degrees. The awards were distributed by Governor Ganeshi Lal, who also serves as the chancellor of the university.



I wish all faculty, staff, and students of Utkal University a very happy and prosperous new year. Our university strives to provide an exceptional educational experience, delivered through the highest quality teaching and state-of-the-art facilities. We take pride in our collective successes in research, teaching, learning, digitization, infrastructure development, renovation, and other endeavors.

I extend my deepest gratitude to the faculty and staff for their unwavering contributions, and to the families who support them. Our initiatives are a testament to our enduring vision of maintaining the highest standards and achieving global recognition. I eagerly anticipate our continued collaboration and wish you all a fruitful new year in 2023.

As a new dawn beckons for our institution, we acknowledge the achievements of the past and the promise of the future. The milestones we have reached are a result of the collective effort of our faculty members, who have worked tirelessly as a team. Let us continue to work together as a community, as we author a new chapter in the history of our beloved university. May the new year bring you hope, health, happiness, and prosperity.



Prof. Sabita Acharya
VICE CHANCELLOR

Utkal University
Vani Vihar, Bhubaneswar
Odisha, India



Utkal University Celebrates its 80th Foundation Day

'Utkal University is the Temple of Learning'



Utkal University celebrated its 80th Foundation Day on the varsity premises on November 27th, 2022, with great zeal and enthusiasm. The event was graced by the Chief Guest, Prof. Ashutosh Biswas, the Executive Director of the All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS), Bhubaneswar. The Commissioner-cum-Secretary of the Science and Technology Department, Government of Odisha, Mr. Bhaskar Jyoti Sharma, also joined the event as the Chief Speaker. Prof. Ashutosh Biswas, in his address to the students, described the university as a temple of learning, where both learning and providing education play important roles in human lives.

He expressed his pride in being an alumnus of the university and standing as the Chief Guest after 45 years. He praised the university for its unique history, geography, culture, and language, which make it stand out from other universities. He emphasized the importance of education and learning and wished all the students good luck for their future.

The Executive Director of AIIMS-Bhubaneswar also mentioned an agreement that AIIMS-Bhubaneswar is going to sign with Utkal University to enable research on healthcare and facilitate the development of health services. This agreement will be a milestone in healthcare research, and both

institutions will work together to improve healthcare in the region.

Mr. Bhaskar Jyoti Sharma, in his address, inspired the gathering with his motivational speech. He urged the students to never give up in life and always strive to be successful in whatever they pursue. He cited the example of Master Blaster Cricketer Sachin Tendulkar and Vinod Kambli, who never gave up and achieved great success. His inspirational speech motivated the gathering and left a lasting impact on their minds.

The Vice-Chancellor of Utkal University, Prof. Sabita Acharya, also addressed the gathering and spoke about the university's ongoing efforts and determination in education, research, technology, and other areas. She expressed her hope that the university would soon achieve NAAC A++ status. She mentioned that the NAAC committee would visit the campus anytime soon, and the university was ready for the physical assessment process. She also spoke about the university's major achievements, such as its efforts to make the university campus fully digital, which is helping enhance the quality of education and research. The Centre for Innovation and Incubation (CII), established in 2018, has witnessed many students and researchers taking their innovative ideas to the next level.

In the beginning, the Registrar of Utkal University, Dr. Avaya Kumar Nayak, spoke about the importance of hospitality and introduced all the dignitaries and guests. The Chairman of the Post Graduate Council, Professor Durga Shankar Pattnaik, expressed his happiness on this occasion. The Director of Student's Welfare, Prof. Mithali Chinara, expressed her joy while addressing the students, guests, and audience.

The celebration was marked by the felicitation of all the scholars and winners of different competitions with certificates and cash prizes. The event was a reminder of the university's rich history and the remarkable progress it has made over the years. Utkal University has come a long way since its establishment, and it continues to inspire students and researchers to achieve their goals. The university has always strived for excellence in education and research, and its efforts have paid off in the form of national and international recognition. The university has produced some of the finest minds in the country, who have contributed significantly to the nation's progress. The 80th Foundation Day celebration of Utkal University was a grand success. The event was a testament to the university's commitment to providing quality education

GHOSHA YATRA AT VANI KSHETRA

Prof. Sabita Acharya Performs Chhera Panhara: The Holy Ritual of Lord Jagannath Car Festival



Vani Vihar: Only place in Odisha, where the Vice Chancellor performs rituals of Rath

Utkal University is the pride of Odisha. It is famously known as the Abode of goddess Saraswati. Every year the RathaYatra of Lord Jagannath is held and celebrated in traditional manner within the campus of the university.

This year the nine day long RathaYatra of Lord Jagannath was one of a kind. The first ever female vice chancellor of the University, Professor Sabita Acharya, has set yet another record. She served as the AadyaSevikato the Lord and performed the ChheraPahara ritual. This was the first time a woman conducted the ritual. This unique tradition created a history in the presence of various other faculty members, workers and students of the university.

The VaniKshetralivened up with the GhoshaYatra. The beloved Lord of the universe stepped out of his abode with his elder brother and younger sister to give Darshanto his devotees.

Riding their chariot the holy trinity were headed towards the Gundicha temple. The chariot was



pulled and accompanied by hundreds of ardent devotees and reached Gundichatemple by evening.

At VaniVihar the chariot and the path for the yatra were all set. After the trinity were all set on their chariot, the devotees were filled with enthusiasm to get a glimpse of their Lord. The holy chant of 'Jay Jagannath', and 'Haribol' echoed through the campus. The day began with numerous rituals which were followed by rituals in accordance with the RathaYatra at Puri. Various other rituals were performed on the chariot. After that the

Vice Chancellor was invited to perform the ChheraPahara ritual by the Chairman of the mandirparichaalana committee. As per the traditions the 28 feet long chariot was built for the yatra. After the holy trinity were all seated on the chariot, the yatra began from Visheswara temple. The chariot covered the route along the university high school, PG council office, school of women studies, IMCA, and finally reached the Mausimaa temple. When the deities arrived at the Kedaraswar temple, the entire premise reverberated with bhajan,

kirtanand pravachan.

After spending nine beautiful days with their aunt Gundicha, the holy trinity were all set to take the journey home. The Bahudaajatra was also conducted with great pomp and joy. On the way home the chariot made a halt for the Sunabesaand AdhadraPanaarituals. After offering rasagola to Goddess Lakshmi, LordJagannath returned home with his siblings. The RathaYatra festival was first celebrated in Utkal University in the year 1973. The route from Visheswar temple to Kedaraswar temple is considered as the BadaDaanda. The Jagannath temple within the Vishweswar temple premise was built by GajapatiMaharajDibya Singh Dev in the year 1991.

In 2016 the Arunastambha and the Garuda Stambha along with the 22 stairs were constructed. The temple is built using the donations made by innumerable devotees. To witness this rathayatra was pure joy.

Workshop on Tribal Heroes in India's Freedom Struggle Organized by Utkal University In collaboration with National Commission for Scheduled Tribes

Tribal communities have played an integral role in Indian civilization and culture. Their unique culture, traditions, values, art, and technology have strengthened the Indian social system. Despite facing centuries of oppression and marginalization, tribal societies have never accepted the slavery of the British and have repeatedly raised their voices against the British rule. The role of tribals in the Indian freedom struggle is unique and deserves recognition and appreciation.

On the occasion of Indian Independence Day celebrations (Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav), a national workshop titled 'Tribal Heroes of India's Freedom Struggle' was held at the Postgraduate Council Hall, organized by Utkal University and National Tribal Commission, New Delhi. The workshop aimed to recognize and celebrate the contributions of tribal fighters in India's freedom struggle.

Speaking as the chief guest at the workshop, Vice-Chancellor Professor Sabita Acharya praised the tribal society, stating that they are an integral part of Indian civilization and culture. "The tribal community has always shown great courage and patriotism, particularly in times of national crises, and had never accepted the slavery of the British", she said.

She remembered the contribution of tribal fighters



from Odisha and all over India and emphasized the need to rewrite Indian history to include the untold facts related to the struggle of tribals in the country's freedom struggle. She presented a comparative analysis of different tribal communities and their involvement in the Indian freedom struggle.

Padmashree Damayanti Beshra, a well-known Santali author and Adivasi researcher, was the keynote speaker at the workshop. Damayanti Beshra's work has been widely recognized for its cultural significance and literary excellence. In 2009, she was awarded the Sahitya Akademi Award, India's highest literary honour, for her Santali novel "Jalakar". The novel portrays the struggle of the Santals, an indigenous community, against oppression and exploitation by landlords and colonizers. Beshra's work gives voice to the marginalized community

and highlights their rich cultural heritage.

At the workshop, Beshra emphasized the importance of recognizing the role of tribal communities in India's freedom struggle. She called for a re-examination of Indian history to bring to light the untold stories of tribal fighters who rebelled against the British and sacrificed their lives to protect the identity of their motherland. Beshra pointed out that the tribal community has always worked for the benefit of society, and their contributions inspire others. She urged the youth to be aware of this aspect of India's history and culture. She emphasized that the primitive inhabitants of India are tribal communities who are very peace-loving.

Ashok Vardhan, Assistant Director of National Commission for Scheduled Tribes, discussed various schemes of the Central Government for the upliftment of tribal commu-

nities during the workshop. He highlighted the need for policy initiatives and government programs that can address the challenges faced by tribal communities and promote their socio-economic development.

The workshop also featured a photo exhibition of 87 tribal fighters who played a significant role in the Indian freedom struggle. The exhibition also showcased photographs on forest rights and tribal lifestyles. Students from various educational institutions and the Forest Department of Odisha Agricultural and Technical University visited the exhibition. The workshop was chaired by PG Council Chairman Professor Durgashankar Patnaik, while Dr. Jyotirmayi Tudu served as the Organizing Editor, and Dr. Prasan Kumar Patra hosted the event. Dr. Sumitra Murmu moderated the programme.

90th Birth anniversary celebration of renowned Educator and Calligrapher, Amulya Krushna Mishra

The 90th birthday celebration of the distinguished educationist and author, Amulyakrushna Mishra, was held at Utkal University on 6 July 2022. Mishra was a multifaceted literary figure, renowned as a poet, dramatist, essayist, and novelist. He left an indelible mark on the field of Odia literature, authoring an impressive 35 books. Raised in a family steeped in education, culture, and communal consciousness, Mishra was a naturally self-righteous and independent individual. He began his career as a lecturer in Physics after completing his graduation from Ravenshaw College, Cuttack. He went on to serve as the Principal of several esteemed institutions, including BJB College, Capital College, Pranath College, JKBK College, and Bhanjanagar College.

Prior to the meeting, Subrata Bala performed the soulful music of Biswa Jeevan O Jana Karuna Sindhu, written by poet Gangadhar Meher. The esteemed Retired Director General of Police and author, Sharat Chandra Mishra, was the guest of honor. He narrated the life story of the late Amulyakrushna Mishra, who despite being a student and teacher of Physics, possessed an incred-



ible depth of knowledge in Odia literature and culture. Mishra was also known for his scholarship and he served as the president of the Odisha Government College Teachers' Association for many years, providing it with proper guidance.

Sathakdi Hota, a retired administrator and notable author, was one of the guests of honor who attended the meeting. He shared his close relationship with Dr. Amulyakrushna Mishra and paid a deep tribute to his memory on this anniversary. Despite his life being cut short at a young age, the inexhaustible talent left by Mishra during his lifetime was rarely seen.

Jayanta Mahapatra, the first Indian English poet to win the Sahitya Akademi Award

for English poetry was the chief guest of the occasion. Shri Mahapatra reminisced about his association with Dr. Mishra first as his teacher, then his colleague and finally as his closest friend. He further added how he was inspired by Mishra's open-heartedness and how he reminded him of the importance of living life happily, together, and in harmony.

The eminent poet and president, Dr. Hussain Ravi Gandhi, remembered his guru and shared some moments spent with Dr. Amulyakrushna Mishra. He spoke of Dr. Mishra's significant contributions in education, government, development, and society. Dr. Mishra earned his doctorate by researching on the literature of Bhakta Salbeg and was keen on publishing his father Melinidhi Mishra's unpublished writings to pre-

serve his memory. Dr. Hussain also highlighted Mishra's book, "Pherai Dio Mor Akhand Bharat," which vividly reflected his anguish and distress at the partition of India. Mishra's compositions, including Shanti Lakash, Ahuti, Bhakta Salbeg, Kamdhenur Luh, Mile Khunt, Oliva Shishana, and the first biography of Biplabi Pramanath Patnaik, received wide readership in Odia literature.

Before the meeting's end, Subrata Bala performed Ahe NilaSaila composed by Salbega. Dr. Pratap Aditya Mishra presided over the meeting, and Dr. Tarunaditya Mishra addressed all participants and attendees. Dr. Rajendra Narayan Das gave the vote of thanks.

Congratulations...



Congratulations to Prof. Kishor Kumarr Basa, Former Professor of Anthropology, Utkal University on being appointed as the Chairman of the National Monument Authority (NMA). The Department of Culture of the Government of India issued an official notification in this regard on 04 November 2022.

This is a remarkable achievement and we are immensely proud of you. This appointment is a testament to your exceptional leadership, knowledge and experience in the field. We are confident that under your able guidance, the NMA will achieve new heights and make significant contributions towards the preservation and promotion of our rich cultural heritage.

Prof. Basa is the vice chancellor of Maharaja Sriram Chandra Bhanj Deo University in Baripada and also the chairman of the Indian National Confederation and Academy of Anthropologists (INCAA), which is the largest anthropological association in India. He had been teaching archaeological anthropology and mu-

seum studies since 1980 and was the former head of the department of Anthropology at Utkal University. Basa was the recipient of Surajmal Saha Memorial Gold Medal for securing the 1st position in the whole of Odisha in the HSC Exam in 1973 and Professor Ghanshyam Dash Memorial Gold Medal for 1st Class 1st in BA History (Honours) exam in 1977 at Utkal University. He secured his PhD from the University of London in 1991. He was a Commonwealth PostDoctoral Academic Staff Fellow at the University of Cambridge from 1999-2000 and was a recipient of the Indo-French Cultural Exchange Fellowship in 1997. He was the former director of Indira Gandhi Rashtriya Manav Sangrahalaya in Bhopal, (Ministry of Culture, GOI) (2004-2008), the Director of Indian Museum, Kolkata (2008-2010), and the Director of Anthropological Survey of India (Additional Charge) (2009-2010).

Once again congratulations on your very best in your new role.



We congratulate Prof, Bibdhu Bhusan Mishra on his appointment as the Vice Chancellor of Sambalpur University. This appointment is a clear indication of his outstanding leadership skills, vast knowledge and intensive experience in the academic field.

Governor and Chancellor of Universities in Odisha, Professor Ganeshi Lal appointed Professor Bidhu Bhusan Mishra as the Vice Chancellor of Sambalpur University for a period of four years.

The appointment will be in effect from the date he assumes office as such or until further orders whichever is earlier, stated an official statement of the Governor's office. An alumni of IIM-Ahmedabad, Mishra retired as a Professor of Department of Business Administration from Utkal University on April 30, 2022. He served as a lecturer of Business Administration of Berhampur University before joining Utkal University. He has authored as many as nine books. He has contributed a total of 122 articles to reputed journals. Mishra has more than 34 years of teaching experience. He has successfully guided one DLitt, 39 PhD and three Mphil scholars.

National Unity Day at Utkal University

The Utkal University on 31st October 2022 organised an exhibition on Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel's life to mark the Rashtriya Ekta Diwas or National Unity Day on the campus.

The exhibition was inaugurated by Vice-Chancellor Prof. Sabita Acharya in the presence of PG Council Chairman Dr. Durga Shankar Pattanaik and all other faculty members. Display



boards depicting Patel's life and his contribution to Indian freedom struggle were installed in PG Council Hall and Administrative Building on the

university campus. Students and faculties went the exhibition going insights the remarkable legacy of Patel Director of Student Welfare Dr.

Mitali Chinara coordinated the exhibition along with RUSA Outreach team and PR Media Cell. The day is designated to honour the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the first Deputy Prime Minister of India and first Home Minister of India from 1947 to 1950. Earlier, the University Grants Commission (UGC) had used he higher education institutes across the country to celebrate National Unity Day on October 31 and carry out a pledge-taking ceremony.

75th Independence Day Celebration at the Utkal University

**'The Sacrifices of Freedom Fighters are Always Remembered;
'Azadi ka Amrit Festival' a Glorious Moment of Historic Achievement'**



The 75th Independence Day Celebration at Utkal University was marked with great fervor and enthusiasm, as Vice-Chancellor Prof. Sabita Acharya presided over the function organized in front of the new administration building as the chief guest. Prof. Acharya emphasized the importance of honoring the dedicated sacrifice of freedom fighters, and lauded the 'Azadi ka Amrit Festival' as a glorious moment of India's social, cultural, scientific, and historical achievements in its 75 years of independence. India's strong and vibrant democracy has enabled progress in every field of science, culture, art, commerce, and education, and the Government of India's new National Education Policy can help in the overall development of students, she said.



"Draupadi Murmu, the President of India and the country's first citizen, is a distinct honor for the state of Odisha, and the University holds great esteem for her, serving as a prime example of women empowerment in India", the Vice Chancellor said.

The event was attended by esteemed faculty members, including P.G Council Chairman Professor Durga Shankar Patnaik, Registrar Dr. Abhaya Kumar Naik, Controller of Examinations Sharat Majhi, Controller of Education Gautam Pradhan, RUSA Coordinator Professor Sushant Kumar Badamali, DSP Karunakar Jena, and Chief Security Officer Sukant Kumar Naik Major, who all reiterated the importance of upholding the spirit of freedom and working towards the eradication of corruption.

The program also featured the presentation of awards to the winners of various competitions and an impressive patriotic cultural program, conducted by Director of Students Welfare, Prof Mitali Chinnara.

Celebrating the Success of University Faculty and their Families

We are thrilled to share with our University community that Biswa Bistruta Tripathy, son of esteemed faculty member Santosh Tripathy of the Odia Department, has secured an outstanding All India Rank 13 in the Union Public Service Commission examination 2022. This is a truly remarkable achievement, and we extend our heartfelt congratulations to Biswa Bistruta Tripathy for this incredible accomplishment.

Clearing the UPSC examination is no mean feat, and we are proud of Biswa Bistruta Tripathy's hard work and dedication in achieving such a high rank. This achievement marks the beginning of his new journey



as a civil servant in the Indian Administrative Service, and we are confident that he will excel in this role.

We would also like to acknowledge the unique timing of this achievement. It is noteworthy that the news of Biswa Bistruta Tripathy's result became public just a day before

his father Santosh Tripathy's retirement from University service. We can only imagine the immense pride and joy that must have filled his heart at this momentous occasion. We, once again congratulate Biswa Bistruta Tripathy on this remarkable achievement and

wish him all the best as he begins his journey as a civil servant. The moment I learned that I had cleared the examination, rather than feeling elated, 'I felt very relaxed because this had indeed been a tiring and long journey' Replied Biswa Bistruta Tripathy when asked about his reaction after he came to know that he had cleared the exams. An embodiment of perseverance, determination, and strong will, Biswa Bistruta Tripathy has worked hard in diverse fields before landing his ultimate dream. From working in PepsiCo to clearing ORS with Rank 1, then OAS with Rank 13, and finally UPSC 2021 with a rank of 232, he has done it all.

Utkal Conducts Employability Skill Training for Students

The Utkal Entrepreneurship and Career Hub (UECH) of Utkal University on Friday organised the third batch of a free session on 'Employability & Soft Skills' (ESS) for its students.

Conducting the session, Director of UECH Dr. Abid Ali Khan said academic qualifications and good marks are not the only way to successfully get jobs.

He asked the students to develop the ability to think beyond the boundaries of their discipline and explore its interrelatedness with other disciplines, while acquiring higher-order skills.

At present, work is afoot to offer nearly 300 'future skill' courses ranging from drone technology to EVs and Internet of Things up to the employ-

ability quotient of India's vast youth population, he informed. Speaking on the occasion, Coordinator of RUSA 2.0 Dr. Sushanta Kumar Badamali said apart from daily studies, students need to acquire skills and effectively use it in their professional life. Soft skills play a big part in teamwork, getting things done effectively, closing deals, and many other aspects of life, he said.

Former Coordinator of RUSA 2.0 and HoD of Commerce department Dr. Prabodha Kumar Hota said positive attitude is the beginning of the soft skills.

The decision making is the most crucial thing in this age of getting into professional life. Displaying strong leadership communication skills can foster trust, instill motivation and help team members to be as productive

as possible, he added.

Sharing her experience, a student of Rural Management department Smruti Soumya Rout said, "Employability skills help us stand out from other candidates aiming for the same job with similar academic qualifications. These ESS programmes empower us to learn the soft skills for interviews."

Binod Dehury, a student of Political Science department, said, "The training programme which costs thousands of rupees outside, we are getting it free of cost in the university."

The inaugural program was conducted under RUSA 2.0 and coordinated by PR Media Cell, Utkal University. More than 80 students from various departments attended the training programme.

The RUSA 2.0 Outreach Team and Utkal University Observed International Lightning Safety Week

The RUSA 2.0 outreach team and Utkal University has been taken initiatives to observe the International Lightning Safety Week on the university premises. The awareness campaigning program has been successfully observed through various activities.

Inter-School quiz, drawing, and speech competitions, themed on "Lightning Safety Awareness" were conducted in Bira Govindapur, Puri, Routpada High School, Khordha, and Utkal University High School, Khordha district.

The awareness audio, videos, templates, messages shown in the activities were developed under RUSA 2.0, Utkal University to project the awareness campaigning week in an effective ways and it was coordinated by Ms. Ananya Pattnayak, Program manager, Rural Development.

The program was moderated by Prof. Abid Ali Khan, Director UECH and Prof. Sushanta Kumar Badamali, Coordinator RUSA 2.0, Dr. Durga Shankar Pattanaik, Chairman PG Council, Dr. Avaya Kumar Nayak, Registrar, Sri. Gautama Pradhan, Comptroller of Finance, Prof. Prabodh Kumar Hota, HOD, Commerce Department ad-



ressed the gathering.

"Every year the world celebrates International week for Lighting Safety Day and celebrates National Lightning Safety Awareness Week on this day July 28. This has been declared one of the natural calamities among others. Especially people working in open fields, schools, houses, playgrounds should take precautions and learn how to save themselves during the lightning hours.

"Every year we get news of people dying due to lightning. So while getting rid of natural disasters is not humanly possible," steps can be taken to reduce the loss of human life, said chief guest Prof. Sabita Acharya, VC, Utkal University. She also urged to students, teachers and other audience to spread this message at least to 5 five people once you go home in the vaca-

tions by circulating the leaflets."

Dr. Habibur Rahaman Biswas, Head Meteorological Centre, IMD, Bhubaneswar shared the knowledge about, how lightning occurs and its reasons? In last six years Odisha, West Bengal, Assam, North East Jharkhand, have recorded lightning in rural areas as 75% and 4% in urban areas. he said. He thanked Prof. Sabita Acharya, Vice Chancellor for taking these activities in the schools, colleges, rural areas through RUSA and Utkal University, in spite of busy academic scheduled

"We use at home only 250 to 350 volt electricity but the Lightning volt is very high about 3 million volt, so when it hits on earth it creates disaster," mentioned Dr. Durga Shankar Pattanaik, Chairman PG Council, Utkal University.

During the event Dr. Asutosh Rath, a Senior Scientist from CSIR, IMMT, Bhubaneswar discussed the latest advancement in safety technology.

He specially highlighted the development off lightning detection systems in Singapore, which will soon be impleted before they occur and alert individuals in the affected area through various mediums, including messages, radio, television and social media.

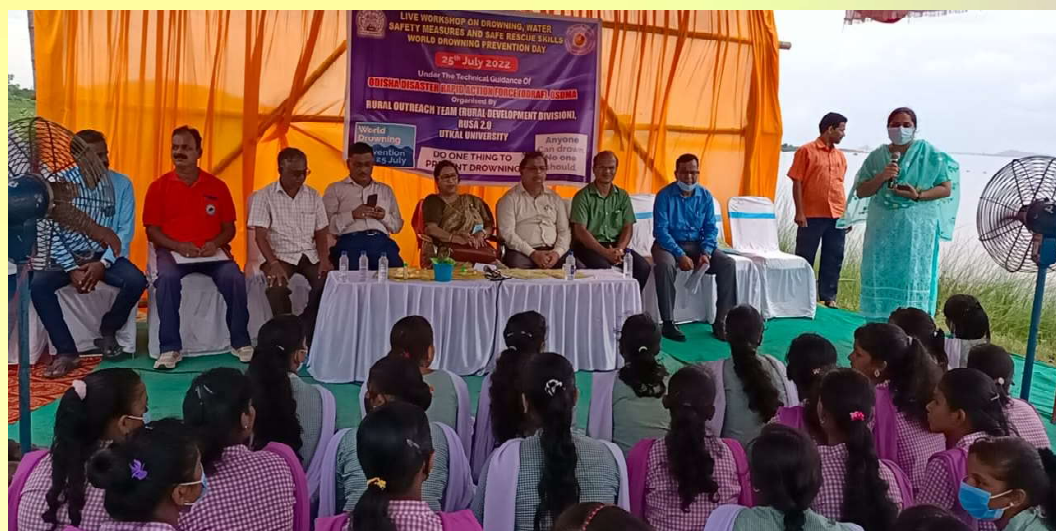
Apart from that Prof. Prabodh Kumar Hota, addressed the audience by saying about the outreach programs of RUSA 2.0, Utkal University and how it is taking initiative to make the people aware in various fields, and this is one of the successful day. The program ended with the vote of thanks by Ms. Ananaya Pattnayak, Program Manager, Outreach RUSA 2.0.

Utkal University Joined Hands with ODRAF to Educate Students & Villagers of Banki, Cuttack on State-Specific Disasters

Utkal University, as a part of its Disaster Management awareness programme, organized a "Live workshop on Drowning, water safety measures and safe rescue skills" under the technical guidance of Odisha Disaster Rapid Action Force (ODRAF) on the occasion of "World Drowning Prevention Day" at Arakha Padia, Banki. Earlier i.e. on 1st WORLD DROWNING PREVENTION DAY, a booklet was released by the University.

Since last year the University has been creating awareness on Drowning by conducting awareness workshops in several areas of rural Odisha.

Drowning is one of the major calamities that people of all age groups especially children face in day-to-day life due to unawareness and negligence. Very few people are aware that lightning, whirlwind,



tornado, heavy rain, sunstroke, boat accident, drowning, and snakebite are the natural calamities that occur in day-to-day life. The state government of Odisha had declared these 8 natural calamities as State Specific Disasters on April 1st 2015. "As a part of Utkal's community linkage and Rural Outreach programme, the varsity plans to impart water safety and safe

rescue skills in as many areas possible among the students and people of Odisha with the help of ODRAF team, we successfully arranged this awareness program for everyone present here, and I thank specially to Major Jadumani Pradhan and his team for the support and all students gathered here" said Prof. Sabita Acharya, Vice-Chancellor, Utkal

University. Executive officer NAC Banki, Chairman NAC Banki, Principal Banki Autonomous College, Stationmaster Fire Station Banki and his team, Shri Sunil Kumar Sahoo, Deputy General Manager, OSDMA, Prof. Prabodh Kumar Hota, HOD, Commerce & Warden of Utkal University, Dr. Sushant Kumar Badamali, and Coordinator RUSA 2.0 graced the programme as Guest of Honours and addressed the participants. Principal Rani Suka Dei Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Principal Rani Suka Dei Higher Secondary School, Students of Rani Suka Dei Higher Secondary School, Rani Suka Dei Mahila Mahavidyalaya, Banki Autonomous college participated in this event. Sri Bhupati Bhusan Pradhan and his entire team of Rover and Ranger Unit actively participated in the event. Dr. Abid Adil Khan, Director, UECH moderated the sessions, PR Media Cell & RUSA 2.0 Team coordinated and Ms. Ananya Pattanayak, Programme Manager (Rural Development), Rural Outreach Programme proposed the formal Vote of Thanks.

YOUNG SOCIAL SCIENTIST AWARD



Chinmayee Mishra has received the Prof. Dr. Boike Rehbein YOUNG SOCIAL SCIENTIST AWARD at International Sociological Congress organised by Humboldt University, Berlin and Cultural Bridge. The conference was held in Pali, Rajasthan, from 5-6th January 2023. She was awarded the best research paper presentation on the topic 'Disaster Casteism: Intersection of Class, Caste and Gender.' Following the footsteps of Naomi Klein and Rachel

E. Luft, who gave the concept of Disaster Capitalism and Disaster Patriarchy, respectively, the researcher has introduced a model for showing the experiences of people in a disaster and how disasters can be further studied through this framework in the Indian context. Disaster Casteism is an intersectional framework along the axis of caste, class, and gender which operates before, during and after a disaster. This model is developed based on the findings from her doctoral research. This study responds to the root causes, behaviours, and consequences of disaster casteism, its contribution to disaster risk creation, and its role in the systemic nature of risk. She has also received 'Performance of Excellence' Award at the research poster presentation at Odisha Research Conclave (ORC) 2022, First in the Social Science category prize at ORC, 2021 organised by Odisha State Higher Education Council. "Chinmayee Mishra is a UGC Senior Research Fellow and pursuing her Ph.D. in Sociology on Women and Disaster: A study on vulnerability and resilience under the supervision of Prof. Navaneeta Rath.

Workshop on 'Resilience and Contribution of Older Women'

Older women continue to meaningfully contribute to their political, civil, economic, social and cultural lives. But their contributions and experiences remain largely invisible and disregarded, limited by gendered disadvantages, said experts at a workshop to mark the United Nation's International Day of Older Persons.

The intersection between discrimination, based on age and gender, compounds new and existing inequalities, including negative stereotypes that combine ageism and sexism, speakers said at the workshop on 'Resilience and Contribution of Older Women' organized by P.G. Department of Sociology and Psychology, Utkal University in collaboration with HelpAge India. Prof. Bhaswati Patnaik, Head of P.G. Department of



Psychology, stressed on mental ageing and stereotyping of the elderly.

Director of SSEPD Bratati Harichandan, Joint Director & State Head of HelpAge India Bharti Chakra, eminent gynaecologist Dr Seba Mohapatra and renowned

women's rights activist Bishakha Bhanja also spoke on the occasion.

Dr Rabindra Garada, Associate Professor of Sociology department, chaired a technical session.

Dr. Tanaya Mohanty welcomed and introduced the guest and Dr. Mousumi Sethi

offered the vote of thanks. Among others Debashree Brahma, Atashi Rath, Papesh Kumar Lenka, Sasmita Soren, Dinabandhu Sahoo, Lucy Hembram and Sunanda Patnaik were also present on the occasion. Adysha Sahoo and Zainab Tashneem, coordinated the sessions.

Goethe University to Join Hands with Utkal to Promote Millets



The Goethe University of Germany will join hands with Utkal University to boost the production of the nutrient-rich millets. With the least water consumption, low carbon footprint, and the fact that millets can be grown even during drought conditions, the millets are referred to as climate-friendly crops, said Prof. Roland Hardenberg of Fresenius Institute at Goethe University. Delivering a lecture on 'Food Sov-

ereignty, Food Security and Religion in Odisha and Beyond' organised by Utkal University's International Office, Prof. Roland said his research on tribals of Koraput and Rayagada and their food pattern prompted him to improve nutrition at the household level through the revival of millets in farms and on plates of tribal communities in Odisha.

Vice-Chancellor of Utkal University Prof.

Sabita Acharya said efforts to collaborate with foreign universities and bringing the Professors to this institution will benefit research scholars and faculty members of Odisha.

While the Vice-Chancellor introduced Prof. Roland, Prof. Sanjay Kumar Sarangi coordinated the programme. Vote of thanks was given by Dr. Chinmay Pradhan.

Meanwhile, Odisha government on Monday also celebrated 'Millets Divas'. Recently, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has approved celebration of 'Millets Divas' on the first Thursday of the Hindu month of Margasira (November). The primary aim of celebrating the day is to promote 'mandia' or millets as a highly nutritive and eco-friendly food product.

163 Scholars Receive Doctorate Degrees at 52nd Convocation of Utkal University

Justice V. Gopala Gowda, Dr. Achyuta Samanta and Dr. Tessy Thomas were Conferred with Honoris Causa



Personal values and principles can provide students with a foundation for success in learning, said His Excellency, Professor Ganeshi Lal, Chancellor of Utkal University, and Governor of Odisha here on 23rd December 2022.

Addressing a hall full of academics, intellectuals, scholars, and students on the 52nd Convocation of Utkal University, Professor Lal urged the awardees to introspect about the values and principles that they stand for. Stressing the importance of personal values, he asked the students to reflect on what kind of person they want to be in the future.

He urged the graduands to try to give back to their family, society and country which have nurtured them during the most significant phase of their life. "My advice to you would be to combine compassion with knowledge, which will help our nation to march ahead on the path of progress while promoting a culture of care and fellow-feeling" he said.

The true value of education extends beyond classrooms and formal degrees, it reflects in the imbibing of

an undeterred willpower and a strong character, said Justice V. Gopala Gowda, Former Judge of the Supreme Court of India and former Chief Justice of Orissa High Court. Delivering the 52nd Convocation address of Utkal University, Justice Gowda said, true education is like a barter system where it is imperative for students to



pay back to the society and country which have contributed to their education and success so far. Quoting Swami Vivekananda's idea of success, he asked students to, "take up one idea. Make that idea your life—think of it, dream of it, live on that idea. Let the brain, muscles, nerves, every part of your body, be full of that idea, and just leave every other idea alone."

He urged the students to set long-term ambitions but always be ready to change course when the need arises, "it is critical to cultivate a degree of nimbleness", he said. He likewise, beseeched the students to be self-reliant but never to lose out on opportunities to learn from others and advised students to plan strategically and carefully but al-

ways be willing to take risks in life.

Speaking on the occasion, the Principal Secretary, Higher Education Department, Government of Odisha, Bishnupada Sethi emphasized the need to reframe educational practices so that students can become global champions of sustainable development. He urged students to include key sustainable development issues like climate

change, disaster risk reduction, biodiversity, poverty reduction and sustainable consumption in whatever projects they undertake in the future. "It is social awareness and sensitivity that can usher the change we dream of" he said.

Vice Chancellor, Professor Sabita Acharya gave the welcome address and said the institution's future will always be based on inclusion, diversity and innovation. The Registrar, Dr. Avaya Kumar Nayak, presented a brief report of the institution highlighting the various achievements of the University in the past one year. On this occasion, Justice V. Gopala Gowda, Dr. Achyuta Samanta, Eminent Indian Educationist and Philanthropist, Member of Parliament, and Dr. Tessy Thomas, Distinguished Scientist & Director General-Aeronautical Systems (AS), DRDO were conferred with Honoris Causa.

163 scholars received their doctorate degrees, 1 DSc and 1 DLit, and 99 students were awarded gold medals across various disciplines.

'Blending of Technology and Traditions, Modernity and Culture is need of the Hour'

The delegates of a National Workshop on 'Janjatiya Anusandhan – Asmita, Astitva evam Vikas' called on the President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Centre on November 28, 2022. President also received the first copy of the book 'Swatantrata Sangram me Janjati Nayakon ka Yodgan' from Shri Harsh Chouhan, Chairperson of National Commission for Scheduled Tribes.

Addressing the gathering, the President said that blending of technology and traditions, modernity and culture is the need of the hour. We must be ready to lead the world with the power of knowledge. The promotion and development of knowledge of tribal society would play an important role in making India a knowledge superpower. She expressed confidence that the people of the tribal society, writers, researchers, would make an invaluable contribution to the development of the tribal society with their thoughts, works and research.

The President noted that youth are getting inspired to understand our history and traditions. She expressed confidence that they would be inclined towards research and writing about the characteristics of the history and culture of our society. She said that India can progress only when our youth understands the glorious history of our country, dreams of the prosperity of the country and the society, and makes every possible effort to make these dreams come true.

The President appreciated



Dr. Jyotirmayee Tudu was attended National Workshop on 'Janjatiya Anusandhan – Asmita, Astitva evam Vikas' called on the President of India, Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan Cultural Centre, New Delhi

the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes for organising a number of events in major universities including photo exhibitions – showcasing the contribution of tribal leaders in the freedom struggle, seminars etc, as part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav. She said that these events would make tribal youth proud of the sacrifices of their forefathers and the great tradition of self-respect of their society.

The President said that history tells us that tribal society never accepted slavery. They were always at the forefront in retaliating against any attack on the country. Struggles and sacrifices in many revolts such as Santhal, Hul, Kol, Birs, Bhil movement by tribal communities across the country can inspire all the citizens.

Pointing to the fact that the population of Scheduled Tribes in our country is more than 10 crore, the President said that to ensure the benefits of development reach to all of them and at the same time, their cultural identity remains intact, is the challenge before us.

Apart from this, their participation in the discussions and research for their development is necessary. The President said that bringing

out the book 'Swatantrata Sangram me Janjati Nayakon ka Yodgan' is a good initiative. She expressed confidence that through this book, the stories of struggle and sacrifice of tribal communities would be widely disseminated across the country.

The two-day workshop organised by National Commission for Scheduled Tribes on 'Janjatiya Anusandhan-Asmita, Astitva evam Vikas' concludes on 28th November, 2022. The workshop was inaugurated on 27th November, in the Plenary Hall of Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi.

On the occasion Chief Guest Shri Jatinder K. Bajaj, Chairman, ICSSR and Shri Harsh Chouhan, Chairperson, NCST, Shri Ananta Nayak, Member, NCST and Smt. Alka Tiwari, Secretary, NCST, New Delhi. Among others Prof. Sabita Acharya, Vice Chancellor of Utkal University was attended as invited guest in that workshop.

Dr. Jyotirmayee Tudu, Assistant Professor of P.G. Department of Public Administration, Utkal University was selected and invited to attend as a delegate. Dr. Sumitra Murmu, PMIR and Dr. Niranjana Sabar also attended the workshop along with other del-

egate by National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST), New Delhi in Janjatiya Anusandhan: Asmita, Astitva evam Vikas" on November 27 & 28, 2022 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.

On the occasion of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav, NCST has conducted this programme after collaborating with various state and central Universities of India in organising Workshop of "Tribal Hero's contribution to India's Independence Movement". On this occasion Dr. Tudu with all the participants of the workshop had got the opportunity to visit Rashtrapati Bhawan on 28th November 2022.

The valedictory ceremony of the workshop was hosted at Rashtrapati Bhawan on 28th November in the august presence of President of India Droupadi Murmu. In her address, she appreciated and encouraged the role of those universities who have successfully organised the workshop on Tribal Hero's contribution to India's Independence Movement and photo exhibition of those tribal hero's whose contribution has not been widely discussed in the mainstream historiography.

Two-day International Conference on Innovations in Intelligent Computing and Communications



Notwithstanding that Machine Learning (ML) and Artificial Intelligence (AI) are still new and developing, there is almost no field where these technologies have not permeated in some form or another. Keeping this in mind, Utkal University is planning to offer certificate course on machine learning (ML) soon, said Vice Chancellor Prof. Sabita Acharya.

Inaugurating the first International Conference 16th December 2022 on Innovations in Intelligent

Computing and Communications (ICIICC-2022) organized by Department of Computer Science & Applications, Prof. Acharya stressed on the importance of machine learning, deep learning and Artificial Intelligence in today's time.

Addressing the inaugural ceremony as chief speaker, Secretary of Electronics and IT Department Manoj Kumar Mishra highlighted the importance of transistors, chips and semiconductor devices in the computing

world. In distributed computing, a problem is divided into many tasks, each of which is solved by one or more computers. The distributed computing solves real life problems of human society, he said.

Former Director of IIT-Bhubaneswar Prof. Ganapati Panda emphasized on the application of Artificial Intelligence in various domains such as security, finance etc.

Statistical analysis plays a vital role in big data and Intelligent Transportation

System becoming the sole of research in the domain of computer vision and sentiment analysis, he said.

The conference sponsored by SERB, Govt. of India and World Bank-OHEPEE, Utkal University had different sessions where various research papers were presented.

The Conference Proceedings book will be published by a reputed journal Springer CCIS Series of Switzerland, which is indexed in leading databases such as Scopus, DBLP etc.

paedics specialist Dr. Indranil Dey attached to Kalinga Hospital conducted the tests and screened the visitors.

Later at a function in the Vice Chancellor's conference hall, Kalinga Hospital's Manager Operations Dr. Narendra Kumar Satapathy made a presentation on ergonomic assessment. Registrar Dr. Avaya Kumar Nayak, Comptroller of Finance, Gautama Pradhan, Deputy Coordinator of RUSA 2.0 Dr. BK Sundaray, Director of UECH Prof. AA Khan, PRO, Ameet Kumar Parichha were present. Programme Manager Liza Swain coordinated the health camp with all the other Program Managers, Rural Outreach team.

Free Health Camp Organised at Utkal



The Rural Outreach wing under RUSA 2.0 of Utkal University on 20th September 2022 organised a free health check-up and ergonomic camp at University Health Centre on campus. Inaugurating the health camp held in collaboration with Kalinga Hospital, Vice Chancellor Prof. Sabita Acharya said health problems could be highlighted by holding

such camps and expressed her satisfaction over the active involvement of students and staff in the endeavor.

About 120 staff underwent various tests including random blood sugar, pulse check-up, blood pressure, BMD etc. Doctors made suitable recommendations. General Physician Dr. Jyoti Prakash Sahoo and Ortho-

Utkal University signs MoU with University of Sugriwa, Bali, Indonesia



University of Sugriwa, Bali, Indonesia and Utkal University, Vani Vihar, Odisha have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for Academic Collaboration on 10th October, 2022 with the approval of Vice Chancellor, Prof. Sabita Acharya. The MoU ceremony between University of Sugriwa, Bali, Indonesia and Utkal University, India was held in the campus of University of Sugriwa, Bali on Monday. Signing of M O U was done in the presence of the Rector Dr. I. Gusti Ngurah Sudiana M. SI of University of Sugriwa and the Registrar, Utkal University, Dr. Avaya Kumar Nayak and Prof. Subhas Chandra Dash, H.O.D. Sanskrit, Co-ordinator, Centre for Studies in Language, Literature and Culture, RUSA, Utkal University.

The objective of the signing the MoU between the two universities is to foster academic excellence through: Joint Research Project, Joint Conference, Workshops, Symposia, Seminars and Training Programs, Exchange of Researchers including Faculty, Graduate Students (M. Phil. / Ph. D) and Postdoctoral Scholars, Exchange of Academic Publications & other information and other forms of Cooperation. The programme will be executed for five years from the date of signing of MOU. This is a historic attempt achieved by the Utkal University to establish the Academic Research Collaboration between two Universities. This will open new vistas in establishing Kalinga-Bali relationship afresh.

Utkal University Press Renovated



Installation of the state-of-the-art 'printing machine' and 'stitching machine', the press is now equipped with the latest technology to produce high-quality publications. This marks a significant milestone for the Utkal University Press, which has been undergoing renovations to enhance its capabilities. The new machines and renovations are expected to help the press deliver faster and more efficient printing and binding services to its clients. The Utkal University Press has a rich legacy of producing publications of national and international repute, and this latest upgrade reaffirms its commitment to delivering excellence in the world of printing and publishing.

It is worth mentioning that the printing machines were originally donated to Utkal University by the Maharaja of Mayurbhanj in 1948 to promote education. Since then, these machines have been used to print numerous books and magazines on the university campus in Cuttack and later in Bhubaneswar.

On the 152nd birth anniversary of Maharaja Sri Rama Chandra Bhanjdeo, a key figure in shaping modern Odisha, the Utkal University Press received a major upgrade. Prof. Sabita Acharya, Vice Chancellor of Utkal University, inaugurated two new machines at the press that promise to give it a complete facelift. With the instal-

Poet Bidyut Prabha Devi Memorial Award Ceremony at Utkal University

The Department of Odia Language and Literature of Utkal University organized the 'Poet Bidyut Prabha Memorial Award Ceremony' on 21st July 2022. On this occasion, the gold medal winners of the category of Odia Language and Literature were felicitated with cash and flower bouquets to Sima Swain, Laxmipriya Kundu and Swagatika Jena. In this ceremony held under the patronage of Vice-Chancellor Prof. Sabita Acharya, Kendra Sahitya Akademi awardee Prof. Shakuntala Baliarasingh attended as the chief guest and gave a speech on 'Importance of Women's Life'. Prof. Sachchidanand Mohanty joined as the guest of honor and highlighted the unexplored talent of poet Bidyut Prabha Devi. In the program, Prof. Mohanty presented to the students the letters, autographs and words of the poet Mayadhar Mansingh and King



Ashtamallik to conduct research on female talent in the presence of Vice Chancellor Prof. Sabita Acharya. Dr. Sanghamitra Bhanj, Head of Odia Department of Ramadevi Women's University, attended and read the essay. As-

stant Professor Anpa Marndi delivered the vote of thanks in this program organized under the direct supervision of Dr. Rameshchandra Mallik, Coordinator, Department of Odia Language and Literature.

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Inauguration of New Building of Hindi & Yoga Department on World Hindi Day

The new building of the Department of Hindi and Yoga has been inaugurated in Utkal University. Under the supervision of Vice-Chancellor Prof. Sabita Acharya, the new building of Hindi and Yoga Department was inaugurated while World Hindi Day on the occasion.

For many days, there was no separate concept of Hindi and Yoga departments, both the departments were being run under the coordination of the Head of the Department, Prof. Subas Chandra Dash, under the supervision of the Department of Sanskrit for almost four years. Dr. Abhay Kumar Naik,



Prof. Smarapriya Mishra and Self Financing Course Director Prof. Navnita Rath participated in this event. Among others Prof. Rabindranath Mishra, Dr. Ajit Prasad Mohapatra, Dr. Snehalata Das, Satyanarayan Mishra, Ajin Sahu were prominently present. Prof. Subas Chandra Dash gave the welcome address. Guest lecturer Ms. Parvati Barik gave vote of thanks.