



Centurion
UNIVERSITY

*Shaping Lives...
Empowering Communities!*

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1st
Convocation
2013

Report of the
Vice Chancellor

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His Excellency, Hon'ble Governor of Odisha, Dr. S.C. Jamir – Visitor, CUTM, Hon'ble Chief Guest, Mr. Subroto Bagchi, Co-Founder and Chairman of MindTree, Esteemed Members of the Governing Board of Centurion University of Technology and Management Technology, Odisha, and members of the Academic Council, distinguished guests, deans and my dear graduating students and their families, faculty, staff, press and media. I heartily welcome you all on the occasion of the First Convocation of the Centurion University of Technology and Management, Odisha. I have the great honour and privilege of placing before you a brief report on the various programs and activities of the University.

Centurion University of Technology and Management Technology, Odisha was established as First Private Multi-Sector State University by an Act of the State Legislature in 2010. It comprises of a network of educational institutes in Odisha that currently includes School of Engineering & Technology, School of Management, School of Vocational Education & Training, School of Agriculture and School of Basic Sciences. The University also undertakes social, environmental and entrepreneurship development initiatives as a responsibility towards the community.

VISION AND MISSION: I take the pride to present before you the vision and mission of the university-

Vision:

- Provision of quality, globally accredited academic programmes in technology and management
- Provision of globally accredited employability training for less endowed segments of the population
- Promotion of entrepreneurial culture and enterprise in the target areas
- Facilitating improved market access to goods and financial services to the target population
- Promotion of lighthouse project interventions in the target areas

Mission:

“A globally accredited human resource center of excellence catalyzing sustainable livelihoods in the less developed markets across the globe”

CAMPUSES: Today, the Centurion University has campuses at Paralakhemundi, Bhubaneswar, Bolangir, and Rayagada offering Ph.D. (Doctoral), M.Tech., MBA, B. Tech., Integrated B.Sc. & M.Sc., B.Sc. (Agriculture), +2 Science, ITI, Primary and Secondary Education in addition to Skill and Vocational Training and Social Entrepreneurship initiatives.

The 'Edu-preneurs' of the University are driven by a common vision of navigating poverty alleviation by giving the youth an opportunity to earn sustainable livelihood through appropriate and relevant education, training and skill building. Spread over an area of 120 acres, the campus at Paralakhemundi is located at R. Sitapur village, about 5kms from the District Head Quarters, Paralakhemundi. The campus has evolved keeping in mind the serene atmosphere and modern amenities required for higher studies. The Campus at Bhubaneswar, spread across 40 acres, is located within the Bhubaneswar Development Authority area. The University strives to provide high quality engineering and management education with on Campus accommodation for students, faculty and staff and their families extending amenities for a wholesome education experience.

TRAINING AND PLACEMENT: Centurion University focuses on developing the high potential of the students with various kind of training as early as possible. We ensure that our training and development programs are effective and strategically aligned. There is a full-fledged and proactive training and placement cell for both the campuses. We are proud to attract many blue chip corporate and other top companies to our campus. The cell offers training in life skills and hard skills, and arranges mock interviews, group discussions, aptitude tests and HR interviews for students. It also coordinates industrial visits and student training. The alumni of Centurion University also contribute towards enhancing the opportunities for placements of existing students.

The University believes that while corporate employment should be one goal, the students are encouraged to look at working with the communities and generate local value through self employment and entrepreneurship. The focus is clearly on 'action leaders" and not just "thought leaders".

STUDENT-CENTRED: The University has developed a comprehensive student support system.

The career and counselling cell helps the students to make the right choices in right time. Career Fountain of the university is meant to be a watering hole for students and faculty, the preferred venue for interaction on careers.

The University also extends excellent scholarship opportunities to provide recognition and financial assistance to students who have achieved good academic records or who manifest a promise of outstanding success and to create an academic environment where the highest standards of scholarship and professional practice are observed. Students at Centurion University are awarded/ sponsored scholarships by various Government and Private Organizations. There are over 400 students who are shortlisted for the scholarship programs.

The University has introduced a special program-Culture, Sports, and Responsibility (CSR) which is a part of the curriculum through which a student has to acquire a Certificate for a total of 30 hours per year of the participation in Culture, Sports & Responsibility activities. Students are strongly encouraged to plan and initiate their own ideas, and collaborate with other students to create projects / involve in activities they find interesting and worthwhile. The objectives are to enhance overall performance of students, to engage them in achieving industrial skills, to bring leadership qualities in them, to engage them in socio - cultural activities which will enhance their moral views and to make them fit and confident to face the challenges of the world. These objectives are achieved through various clubs like Radio Club, Innovation Club, NCC, Youth Redcross, NSS, Language Club, Music Club, and other responsibility clubs. The program gives students an opportunity to learn from the experience of doing real tasks beyond the classroom.

GRAM TARANG: Gram Tarang is the flag ship social outreach arm of the Centurion University. The University is proud to be one of the first partners to National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) to set up over 50 Skill Training and Capacity Building Centres across the country

providing vocational training with industries-intense partnership for post training engagement.

Gram Tarang Foods is yet another successful programme dedicated to produce superior quality CO2 extracts (Select oils, Oleoresins and Total extracts) from raw, organic spices and herbals by applying superior technology. Gram Tarang is also into financial inclusion and works in over 600 villages spread across India.

The University's initiative in providing employment opportunities through training programmes has been amply recognized both in India and overseas. For Gram Tarang Employability Training Services it has received the prestigious "Best Skills Project in Rural Communities" reward from UK-India Business Council & FICCI. The Ministry of MSME, Government of India has empanelled the Centurion School of Rural Enterprises Management (CSREM), established at Paralakhemundi, as a Rajiv Gandhi UdhyaMitra Institute. The University is the only University empanelled by Ministry of Labour and Employment (MoLE), Government of India as an Assessing Body for all MES Courses offered by DGET, MoLE.

In its drive for providing quality training and skill development to the numerous youths seeking employment and participating in the inclusive growth process, the University has partnered with Companies like Accenture, Indian Institute of Banking & Finance, Meritrack etc. Industrial companies like Ashok Leyland, Navayuga, CISCO, SAP, Vedanta, Jindal Group, Monnet, Utkal Alumina, OHPC etc. have also collaborated with the University in making the vocational programmes successful.

While the University strives to forge national and international partnerships for academic enhancement, its focus is on experience based learning and practice oriented education. The University intends to develop as a "Skills University" and concentrate on the great demographic dividend the country will experience in the present decade. The University has thoroughly revised its curriculum to increase practical component and intends to produce graduates who "can" and not just "think".

The other major focus of the university is to be able to catalyse socio-economic development of challenged regions and communities. The university intends to be a hub of such activities. Hence, Gram Tarang, the social outreach arm is not its appendage but the core of its existence.

The list of accolades achieved by the University (both organizationally and individually) is quite large. To cite a few, Prof. (Dr) Mukti Kanta Mishra, the President of the CUTM was awarded the inaugural Australian Alumni Excellence Award for Education by Government of Australia for his outstanding contribution in the field of education. He has been also awarded with Roll of Honour certificate in the Skills Champion - Emerging Warrior category by FICCI in recognition of extraordinary contribution in developing technologies, distinctive training solutions, path breaking research and commitment towards the skilling movement in the country.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT: The vigor deployed in teaching and other activities gets a boost and innovation through research initiatives undertaken by the faculty. The R & D Forum of the University provides a platform to feature the research work and share the inspirational and thought provoking ideas of faculty, students and research scholars to a wider community. It primarily works in the knowledge domain and its applications. Discussion, collaboration and knowledge sharing form an integral part of the series. Faculty development programs, seminars, workshops, conferences, QIP, and summer immersion programs for faculty have become a part of learning practices at the university. The University encourages faculty to participate in national and international conferences and organises exposure visits for them every year to fulfil the needs of the students and match with the demands of the industry.

MINI TOOL ROOM: The Centurion University is the first University in the country which has established a Tool Room under PPP mode and ready to be conditioned to offer industry- specific hands-on training in 35 trades. The tool room is also engaged in production of components for Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) which speaks about the self-propelling quest for excellence by the University.

E-LEARNING PLATFORM: The Media Resource Centre, E-classrooms and Centurion Learning tablets have revolutionised the teaching and learning styles at the university. The customisation of syllabus, e-content designed by the faculty on the various courses in the form of notes, presentations, question banks, solved banks, assessments loaded in the tabs, videos on classroom lectures and laboratory instructions provide students self-learning and other effective learning tools at the University. This has given flexibility in learning spaces, utilising technological devices and interacting with social networks for enhancing motivation and innovation. The entire University is running through ERP. The University is planning to introduce Cloud Computing through ION-Tata Consultancy Services and also create professional virtual community for students using the collaboration enablers like blog posts, bytes, Q&A, debates, wiki, media, etc. to foster the exchange and growth of knowledge.

Odiya Abhidhan: English To Odiya Dictionary App - Our students, Anshuman and Deeptiman Pattnaik have created English to Odiya dictionary as part of their academic project. This dictionary is an Android app in Google play. With 10,000 downloads, it is now ranked 134 among the Top Free Education applications in Google Play.

Their work was appreciated by Mindtree founders, Subroto Bagchi and N. S. Parthasarathy, resulting in them being awarded the first Mindtree Fellowship, leaving them free to work on this initiative at Centurion University, for next two years. Their work is being guided by the Centre for Indian Language Technology at IIT Mumbai, headed by Prof Pushpak Bhattacharyya.

THE FIRST CONVOCATION OF CUTM (ODISHA): This First Convocation of CUTM is a historical moment for us. We have 411 undergraduates and 96 postgraduates both in Engineering and Management who will receive their degrees. This is the most defining moment for all graduating engineers and managers. It is a matter of great joy and pride to see bright young students transformed by their stay here, and ready to face the challenges of the world. On behalf of the Centurion University, I offer my heartiest congratulations to all the graduating

students and their proud parents. My dear students, you carry with you the unique distinction of being the first batch of alumni to pass out of its portals. We are sure that this special bond you share with your alma mater will continue wherever you are. You are the torch bearers of change, and I urge you to live your lives with honour and honesty. We hope that your education here will make a difference to the world at large, and wish you good luck in all your future endeavours. May God be with you and shower His Grace and Blessings on you always.

Jai Hind!

Prof. (Dr.) D. Nageswara Rao
Vice - Chancellor