



Centurion
UNIVERSITY
Shaping Lives...
Empowering Communities...

7TH CONVOCATION 2019

REPORT OF THE
VICE-CHANCELLOR

6 DECEMBER 2019

CENTURION UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT
ODISHA

(ESTD. VIDE ODISHA ACT 4 OF 2010 & U/S 2(F) OF UGC ACT, 1956)



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His Excellency, **Professor Ganeshi Lal, the Hon'ble Governor of Odisha** and the Visitor of Centurion University of Technology and Management;

Chief Guest of the Convocation, **Dr. K.P. Krishnan**, IAS, Secretary. Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Government of India;

Chief Guest, **Shri. Pradeep Singh Kharola**, IAS, Secretary, Civil Aviation, Government of India;

Distinguished Members of the Governing Board,

President, Vice President, Registrar,

Members of the Academic Council, Board of Studies, Pro Vice Chancellors, Directors, Deans, Faculty and Staff of the University, Parents, Distinguished Guests, Representatives of Electronic and Print Media and most importantly our Graduating students, Ladies and Gentlemen.

As Vice Chancellor, I warmly welcome you all to the 7th Convocation of the Centurion University of Technology and Management, Odisha.

It is my pleasure to present before you and this distinguished audience batches of students who have successfully completed their course work in different academic domains. On this auspicious occasion, let me take the liberty of briefly sharing with you some of the key activities and events of the University during this past year.

Centurion University, in eight years of its existence, has got the distinction of being recognized as the Centre of Excellence in the field of Skilling Ecosystem in the country by Government of India in November 2019; Institute for the Training of Trainers (ITOT), and 'Skill University' by the Government of Odisha; and National Employability Enhancement Mission (NEEM) facilitator by the All

India Council of Technical Education (AICTE) in August 2017. Earlier, it received 12B status from the University Grants Commission (UGC) in December 2016 and 'A' Grade from the National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC), Government of India in November 2015.

The University offers 2 Certificate, 13 diploma, 43 under-graduate and 54 post-graduate and doctoral programs through Schools of Agriculture, Applied Sciences, Architecture and Planning, Management, Media and Communication, Paramedics and Allied Health Sciences, Pharmacy and Life Sciences, Forensic Sciences, Disaster Management, Agriculture, Bio-Engineering, Fisheries and Vocational Education and Training located in four constituent campuses across Odisha, at Paralakhemundi, Bhubaneswar, Rayagada and Bolangir with a student strength of 8477 as on November 2019. This includes 46 International students who got their admissions this year for different courses.

In March 2019, The National Agricultural Education Accreditation Board of ICAR granted accreditation to the University's M.S. Swaminathan School of Agriculture for a period of five years up to 2024. School of Paramedics and Allied Health Sciences (SoPAHS) has got recognition for Allied Medical Science Courses for the academic session 2019-20

In 2019, the University launched new courses, such as

- Bachelor of Technology in Phytopharmaceutical
- Bachelor of Media Communication
- Diploma in Automobile Engineering
- Bachelor of Technology in Computer Science Engineering - Amazon Web Services (AWS)
- Bachelor of Technology in Computer Science Engineering - IBM
- Master in Business Administration in Pharmaceutics

- Master in Business Administration for Executives
- Bachelor of Science in Bio-Chemistry
- Master of Science in Cyber Security

Teaching and Quality Assurance

During the year, the University consolidated its on-going Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) for students in Engineering and Applied Science disciplines and expanded to Diploma in engineering program and other Schools.

Learning records for students and teaching-learning records for faculty are maintained for better learning and its traceability. Student specific action plans for timely graduation and realization of career objective are used as tools for mentoring by the faculty.

The University conducts about 120 regular semester examinations for 34 programs in a year in which approximately 79000 answer-books are evaluated for 1645 subjects. In addition, there are 5 Examinations on Demand (EOD) in a year where students have a choice to register backlogs they want to clear. Systematic use of ICT helps in timely execution of assessment process while maintaining high quality.

Research and Consulting

Considering University's focus on action research that has implications for the socio-economically underprivileged community, it has created Centers of Excellence in Renewable Energy and Environment, Material Science, Organic Agriculture and Value Addition, and Indigenous Knowledge System. These Centers and social enterprises that the University has set up help in solving real life problems faced by the community through development of skilled manpower and appropriate technologies. In 2019, Centurion University has received research and consultancy projects from Indian Metals & Ferro Alloys Limited (IMFA), Gap Foundation, Odisha State Medical Corporation Limited, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC), IPE Global Limited SELCO and National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS).

Entrepreneurship Development

Entrepreneurship Development has its roots in CUTM since its inception, albeit in the form of Skill Development linked to Employability & Entrepreneurship. As a recognition to its efforts, MSME and Startup Odisha has given the Incubator tag to CUTM and Gram Tarang with funding support for its infra augmentation in terms of lab machinery and R & D facility.

The incubation wing - CIE (Centre for Innovation & Entrepreneurship) had taken 25 startups under its wings for providing holistic support ~ funding, mentoring, market connects, capacity building workshops and industry interventions and has opened its gateway to attract more ideas through Hackathons, Bootcamps, Accelerator Cohorts etc. CIE in its cross-cutting exploration is setting up Rural Incubators in different districts of Odisha with the support of Startup Odisha. In its endeavor to choose best of ideas propelled for scale up, they are recognized Nodal Agency under Startup Odisha for different sectors and have screened more than 27 applications paving way for incubation to half of them.

Some of the innovations which are in the scale are from the sectors of Agri, Renewable Energy, Healthcare, Education & Skill Development, Art & Crafts and Waste Management. Few of the key startups incubated includes

- Likhan (Pens developed from Waste Papers)
- E-Vehicles (customized for commercial use)
- Hybrid solar aerators (used for pisciculture)
- Wood-labs (re-defining the art of wood making)
- Low cost Soil testing kits

Innovation Agriculture Project

Innovation Agriculture Project is funded by National Skill Development Corporation. Centurion University is working in 9 districts of Tribal Dominated South Odisha and 3 districts of North coastal Andhra Pradesh LWE Districts with 12 training centers. Centurion has collaborated with Non-Government Organizations

like Harsha Trust and SACAL in Odisha and BREDS in Andhra Pradesh for implementation of this project. Centurion has also partnered with Café Coffee Day in Odisha as a training partner. As on November 2019, Centurion has trained 2725 farmers and 124 Community Resource Persons that facilitates to enhance their income through contact farming.

Centurion University has installed vermi compost production units in its adopted 5 Tribal Villages. It has conducted Frontline Demonstration on various Agricultural crops through Organic package of practices. Centurion in partnership with Odisha Livelihoods Mission, Govt. of Odisha organized a six days training programme for livelihoods resource persons in July 2019 by MS. Swaminathan School of Agriculture at its Paralakhemundi Campus.

Project Atal

The project envisions doubling farmer's income by training & certification of 100,000 small and marginal farmers through specially developed 200 local Krishi Udyog Sahayaks (KUS) in 200 blocks of Odisha. 75 Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) camps will become semi-permanent training cum production centres. 9 Farmer experience zones are being setup in Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendras (PMKKs). Producer groups are being created among farmers & Last Mile Distribution Company (LMDC) of the University to provide market linkage.

The project has also the mandate to assess & certify the faculty and students of the School of Agriculture by the Agriculture Sector Skill Council of India (ASCI). Centurion University and LMDC also provide end to end support which includes supply of raw materials, technical support, mentoring, training and market linkage to the farmers for producing R&R (15048) controlled sugar rice variety for doubling their income.

Andhra Pradesh Agri RPL Project

Centurion University and Gram Tarang have signed MoU with Society for Employment Generation and Enterprise Development

in Andhra Pradesh (SEEDAP) for training of 3000 farmers in Srikakulam, Vizianagaram & Visakhapatnam district of Andhra Pradesh on three job roles: Cashew Cutter, Coffee Cutter, Millet Cutter.

Initiatives in the Area of Energy

Through 'Suryamitra Skill Development Programme' and 'Clean Energy Entrepreneurship Development Program', the Centre for Renewable Energy and Environment has developed 620 skilled work force in the field of solar plant installation and 30 Clean Energy Entrepreneurs in Odisha. Ministry of Nonconventional and Renewable Energy, Government of India, Odisha Renewable Energy Development Agency, SELCO Foundation, Schneider Electric and Harsha Trust have been partners of the programs. In 2019, the Centre has installed more than 250 solar street lights within the campus to reduce carbon footprints. It is working towards Bio CNG production from kitchen waste.

The University, in its endeavor to skill development in power sector, has started with repair of distribution transformers of various electricity utility companies in its workshops. In 2019, it has started manufacturing and executing the order for 200 numbers of 11 kV/0.4 kV-Distribution Transformers up to 500 KVA capacity in its workshop. This has been integrated to the course curriculum. The students actively participate, gain hands-on knowledge and are evaluated by the Industry-experts before qualifying for the degree. This helps in developing a cadre of skilled manpower for preventive maintenance of transformers in rural area, with the ultimate aim of increasing electric power availability. In addition, the Centre is facilitating erection of grid interactive solar power plant of half a Megawatt capacity each in its Bhubaneswar and Paralakhemundi campuses.

Community Outreach

The University has adopted a concept of 'Adarsh Gram' in Patikota village near Paralakhemundi campus to promote sustainable livelihood security and quality of life of people. The interventions in

the villages are designed to meet the requirements of United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Additionally, under Unnat Bharat Abhiyan of the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India, the University adopted 5 villages such as Barlanda, Badigam, Routpur, Jhampiguda and Engersingh in the Gajapati district.

Coping Natural Disaster

Centurion University is still recovering from the irreparable damage done by cyclone Fani and Titli. The faculty and staff worked in war-footing and took the responsibility of coping with the natural disaster and supporting community, civil society and government in the restoration effort.

Social Entrepreneurial Initiative of the University

- The Urban Micro-Business Centre (UMBC), the Social Entrepreneurial Initiative of the University, is used as a centre for research and learning for Indian and foreign students of management and engineering studies. Deakin University, Australia has designated it as its extended Action Learning Centre. UMBC has set up 16 different micro-business verticals for enhancing employability and entrepreneurship of slum-dwellers. As on October 2019 it has impacted 856 economically marginalized families dwelling in urban slums through its training programmes and other micro business initiatives. It has further facilitated bank linkages and financial assistance to 67 women promoting individual micro businesses and contributing to incremental growth of 10-15% in their family earnings. It has precisely set up 16 different nano business verticals and created the scope of employment, employability and entrepreneurship. Currently, it is housing 53 individuals as potential micro entrepreneurs or job takers through its on job training programmes.
- Gram Tarang Employability Training Services Pvt. Ltd. (GTETS), another social entrepreneurial initiative of the University, has the distinction of training 1.5 lakh youth by

end of 2018 and placing most of them in India and some abroad. It has built a capacity to train 50,000 youth annually, in 41 Centres, across 7 States of India. Its unique model of integrating skills with higher education continued to receive recognition. Gram Tarang has been ranked as No 1 Skill Training Provider in the recent Rating & Grading of PIAs running DDU-GKY in Odisha. This Rating & Grading exercise was carried out by ORMAS, PR&DW department, Govt of Odisha. It got a Final Grade of A+ which is the highest in the state and a matter of great pride. The partnership with Dassault Systems has also done well where Gram Tarang as a Systems Integrator for Dassault is implementing training programs across 50 engineering colleges of Govt. of Andhra Pradesh.

- The Gram Tarang Inclusive Development Services Pvt. Ltd. (GTIDS), a social entrepreneurial outreach of Centurion University is active in Financial Inclusion space from April 2011 & worked as a sub-contractor for Atyati Technology till June 2019. On behalf of Atyati Technologies, GTIDS recruited over 8500 agents for 13 Banks in 14 States. GTIDS opened over 1.6 Crores no-frills accounts, mobilized Fixed Deposits amounting to ₹200 Crores, savings amounting to ₹2,000 Crores and collected over ₹400 Crores NPAs from the beneficiaries on behalf of Partner Banks. GTIDS disbursed more than 400 Crores Microfinance loans to over 1,60,000 beneficiaries under Mudra Scheme.

GTIDS developed its own technology in 2018, signed agreements with 5 banks - Andhra Bank, Andhra Pradesh Gramina Vikasa Bank, Telangana Gramina Bank, Bank of India and KBS Bank, as a principal contractor. GTIDS currently employs 1200 Business Correspondent Agents and through them provide banking services like withdrawals, mobilization of savings, FDs, RDs, marketing government schemes like APY, PMJJBY, PMSBY, recovery of NPAs etc. GTIDS intends to sign agreements with more

banks in the future and plans to on board 2000 new Business Correspondent Agents by this year end.

- Gram Tarang Foods Pvt. Ltd. (GTF), another Social Enterprise of Centurion University dedicated to producing high quality spice extracts, supports local value addition, local market creation and market linkage for farmers. In 2019,
 - It scaled up Turmeric Oil Co2 production to 4000 kg annually.
 - It secured its advance long term commercial contract.
 - It made a successful testing of 24X7 commercial production
 - It implemented intern's project as a standalone chilling unit for pilot SCFE CO2 setup.
- The Center for Assessment and Certification, another social enterprise of the University, undertakes assessment and certification of skill courses on NSQF level skill job roles and Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) in all states of India. This unit has been empowered as awarding body by the Ministry of Skill and Entrepreneurship Development (MOSED), Government of India, and all state governments. It works closely with a number of Sector Skill Councils such as Automotive, Telecom, Tourism & Hospitality, Furniture & Fittings, Electronics, Agriculture, Retail, Plumbing and Health. The Center took the responsibility of skilling, assessing, certifying and placing candidates in European and other Asian countries such as Poland, Austria, Portugal, Dubai and Qatar. The Centre has assessed 3,35,620 skilled candidates and placed 210 foreign skilled candidates, till November 2019.

Collaboration

Students and faculty from many foreign Universities and Institutions undertake teaching, training and research programs at

the Centurion University. Students from the universities and institutes of Australia, Norway, University of California, Santa Cruz, USA and other countries regularly visit Centurion University as a part of their academic programs.

To strengthen its academic and industry partnership, Centurion has signed MoUs with Biological E Limited in December 2018; with NSDL Database Management Ltd.(NAD), Center Of Land Governance (CLG) and Rama Devi Women's University in January 2019, Odisha Rural Development and Marketing Society (ORMAS), Gram Tarang Technologies & Dassault System in February 2019; with Dassault Systems Foundation in March 2019; with Centre For Community Development (CCD) in May 2019; with Odisha Staff Selection Commission (OSSC) and Virginia Tech India Research and Education Forum (VTIREF) in June 2019; with Central Tuber Crops Research Institute (CTCRI) in July 2019; with Frobenius Institute for Research in Cultural Anthropology, Goethe University Frankfurt in October 2019 and recently with Prime University, Dhaka, Bangladesh and Bosch India, in November 2019.

Centurion University's linkage with its Alumni Association has been further strengthened by closely integrating it with the curriculum development, class room teaching, student internship and placement support.

Conferences and Seminars

During the year, a number of workshops and conferences were organised by the University. Some of these include:

- **At the Paralakhemundi Campus**
 - M. S. Swaminathan School of Agriculture organized a National Seminar on Agriculture Development in Southern Odisha
 - Computer Science Engineering Department organized AWS Technical Essential Workshop, Workshop on Computational Thinking and Workshop on Angular JS

- Mechanical Engineering Department organized Workshop on Refrigeration and Air Conditioning in association with National Engineering Corporation, Visakhapatnam
- Electronic and Communication Engineering Department organized National Seminar on 5G Communication Techniques and Workshop on Internet of Things
- Civil Engineering Department organized Workshop on Structural Design using Tekla in Association with Civil Center Pvt. Ltd., Bhubaneswar

➤ **At the Bhubaneswar Campus**

- Computer Science Engineering Department organized
 - A one-day workshop on Introduction to CLOUD Computing and its Application
 - A five days' workshop on Internet of Things using Arduino Board
 - A workshop on Artificial Intelligence, Wireless Communication and Mechatronics using Simulink and MATLAB
- Electrical Engineering Department organized
 - A seminar on Control of Automation Under Water Vehicles like Submarines
 - A seminar on Transformer Manufacturing
- Mechanical Engineering Department organized a seminar on Optical Engineering - An evolution from Science to Technology to Product
- Department of Botany organized a National Seminar on Plants for Sustainable Development and Clean Environment and 43rd Annual Conference of Orissa Botanical Society
- Department of Chemistry and Physics organized a

National Conference on Recent Advances in Materials (RAM): Green Future

- School of Applied Sciences along with Ambika Prasad Research Foundation (APRF) jointly organized a National Seminar on Indigenous Knowledge & Conservation of Threatened Medicinal Plants in association with National Medicinal Plants Board, Ministry of AYUSH, New Delhi and Shree Gopal Jew Trust, Bhubaneswar, Odisha
- School of Applied Sciences organized 'Schienophile' a State level Science Exhibition
- School of Media and Communication organized Animation workshop, Film Making and VFX workshop.

Faculty

The University's faculty strength includes 190 in Paralakhemundi campus, 141 in Bhubaneswar campus, 26 in Rayagada campus and 38 in Bolangir campus, as on November 2018. During December 2018 and November 2019, 74 faculty members left and 127 joined the University. Faculty Development Programs are organized, with both internal and external resource persons, on a regular basis to strengthen their knowledge and skill and making teaching and learning process more effective. Between 2011 and 2019, the University filed 28 patents from its action research, out of these, 22 have been published.

Enabling environment

Since most of the students of the Centurion University come from an eco-system that is characterized by limited world view, communication skill and motivation level; the University has integrated life skill development with the regular curriculum. Participation in Culture, Sports and Socially Responsible (CSR) activities are mandatory for students and individual performance is indicated in the Grade sheet. During the year, a number of such

activities were organised by the University. Some of these include:

- Two Day workshop was organized on International Dance forms was on December 2018 facilitated by Bollywood Choreographer and Nritya Shakti Academy
- Number of competitions were organized during the University's Annual Event – Gajajyoti on February 2019
- Speech and Cultural Programmes were organized on the occasion of Utkal Diwas on April 2019
- The International Yoga day was observed and celebrated on June 2019 in collaboration with Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS), Govt. of India
- A one month mass drive on was organized on Polythene/plastic free campus during July - August 2019, to create awareness and stop its use
- District Level Youth Parliament was organized during July 2019 at Parlakhemundi Campus where in few students were selected to participate in the National Level Youth Parliament at New Delhi in August 2019
- A drive was organized on Thousand Tree Plantation within campus and in adopted villages
- Events were organized on the occasion of International Literary Day in September 2019
- CSR team organized frequent visit to places like Jagannath Niketan Orphanage, Vivekanand Ashram, Adrut Children's Home, Madhur Mayee Adarsh Siksha Niketan and conducted various activities-cum-competition amongst the children like Painting, Relay race, Quiz, Dance, Music, etc. All the winners awarded with certificates and prizes
- CSR team organized a Mega Voluntary Blood Donation Camp today with a record breaking collection of 382 units of blood in a single camp

To enhance teaching-learning effectiveness, bright and enthusiastic

students are encouraged to undertake peer teaching. The University has introduced “Student Teacher Domain” where, along with faculty, students teach courses to their juniors and to those having back paper. The process is expected to give interested students a platform to experience teaching and motivation for a career in teaching.

The University is committed to creating and maintaining a community in which students, faculty and staff can work together in an environment free of violence, harassment, exploitation and intimidation. This includes all forms of gender related violence, sexual harassment and discrimination on the basis of sex/gender. Any form of ragging, gender discrimination and violence is monitored through departmental and University level committees.

Centurion University has seen one of the best placement years in 2019. The average number of job offers per recruiter for School of Engineering and Technology, School of Management, School of Agriculture and School of Vocational Education and Training were 3, 2, 4 and 10 respectively. The outcome of the combined and relentless effort of Placement Team resulted in 601 offers from 174 Companies in 2018-19. 76% of eligible engineering, 55% of eligible diploma, 40% of eligible agriculture, 20% of eligible science and 100% of eligible management students were placed successfully.

The University facilitates study loan from financial institutions and arranges scholarship from both internal and external sources, for needy students. We are grateful to the Government of India, Government of Australia, Government of Norway, other national governments, international and national organisations; Government of Odisha, other state governments and their agencies; international, national and state level companies, academic and research institutions; civil society organisations, individual donors and well-wishers for their support and trust in our mission, values and strategy.

To the Graduating Students

On behalf of the University and on my own behalf, I heartily congratulate all the students graduating today. Please remember that the purpose of education is not to bring livelihood security and prosperity for you, alone. As you move out of this University with the degree in your hand, you owe responsibility to respect diversity in all form, social accountability for your family and immediate community, and fearless nonviolent actions for environmental sustainability. The foundation in which we in India, could maintain a functioning democracy, socio-economic growth with equity and positive hope for future, needs to be strengthened. In a technology driven interconnected world, we have the opportunity to make the world a fair and dignified place for all. May God give you strength to bring glory to yourself, your family and the country. On behalf of my colleagues and myself, I wish you all the best.

Thank you.

Prof. Supriya Pattanayak
Vice Chancellor

Prof. Supriya Pattanayak

Vice Chancellor, Centurion University. PhD in Social Sciences, RMIT University, VIC, Australia, MPhil Psychiatric Social Work, National Institute of Mental Health and NeuroSciences, Bangalore, India, MA Social Work, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, India, BA, Mysore University, Mysore, India.

Dr. Pattanayak comes with over 25 years of experience both in the development sector and academia like Department for International Development (DFID) India; Deakin University, VIC, Australia, Policy and Strategic Planning Unit, Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Odisha; Center for Youth and Social Development, Odisha; RMIT University, Australia; MahilaSamakhya, Ministry of Human Resources Development, Government of India; Voluntary Health Association (Delhi); United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, New Delhi and Institute of Applied Language Sciences, Mysore.