

The Central University of Odisha celebrates the 24th Kargil Vijay Diwas

The Central University of Odisha, Koraput, in association with Mahatma Gandhi Antarrashtriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya, Wardha celebrated Kargil Vijay Divas on 26 July 2023 at its campus at Sunabeda under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat, a flagship programme of Ministry of Education. Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of the Central University of Odisha, Prof. Chakradhar Tripathi, conveyed his best wishes for a successful programme. He said in his message "We honor the great heroes who sacrificed their life for the victory of Kargil. Today, on the occasion of this victory day, let us think about how we have to empower our country. The universities have to produce well-qualified scientists, patriots, scholars, thinkers, well-qualified disciplined youth at the level of character and thought for the future of the country". He urged the students to do their best for the development of our nations. Prof. Hemraj Meena read out the message of Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor Prof. Tripathi and paid tribute to the brave soldiers. Dr. Sourav Gupta, Nodal Officer, Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat, CUO, delivered the welcome address.

Shri Shailesh Kumar, DIG, BSF, Koraput, attended as the Chief Speaker on this occasion. He made a wonderful and successful effort to educate students about the history of the Kargil War and the grim reality of armed personnel who risk their lives in battle so that their country's citizens can live in peace. He also focused on the technological advancements made in the army. Prof. Mandal presented him with a memento.

Prof. Sudhendu Mandal, Advisor –Academic, presided over the programme. He highlighted the history of border conflicts between the countries in his presidential address. He said, "It all started with the Britishers who decided to invade India and later partition it. The nation is safe for the sake of the sacrifice of its soldiers". He mentioned that the Koraput has played a significant role in national security. The Hindustan Aeronautics Limited of Koraput is providing advanced fighter jets and choppers to the Indian Air Force. He paid tributes to the brave soldiers on this occasion.

Prof. Vibhas Chandra Jha highlighted the adverse condition of geographical areas where our soldiers are doing their duties to save our life. He said, "We feel safe for the soldiers. In the 21st century, the Armed forces are using new technologies and tackling problems." Dr. Prasant Meshram, Controller of Examinations of the University, delivered his address in the Marathi language as Odisha is paired with Maharashtra under the Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat. He spoke about the great freedom fighters who gave our country freedom.

Prof N C Panda, Dean of the School of Languages said India has faced captivation, however, leaders like Netaji, Tilak, Rani Laxmi Bai, and Bhagat Singh have made India an independent nation. Prof. S K Palita, in a concise manner, pointed out the vital role that the Indian army plays in maintaining peace and harmony in the country.

To celebrate the Kargil Vijay Divas, the University organized three competitions, i.e., Rangoli, Painting, and Slogan Writing on 25 July 2023. Prizes and certificates were awarded to the participants. Finally, Dr. Minati Sahoo ended the main event with a vote of thanks to all the guests including BSF personnels, professors, lecturers, staff members, students, and volunteers, who made the event successful.

Dr. Phagunath Bhoi, Public Relations Officer