

**CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF ODISHA, KORAPUT**  
**OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC RELATIONS**  
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**Central University of Odisha celebrates World Soil Day**

The Central University of Odisha celebrated World Soil Day on 5 December 2023 in association with the ICAR-Indian Institute of Soil and Water Conservation (Regional Centre – Sunabeda) on its campus at Sunabeda. This year's World Soil Day Celebration theme is "Soil and Water: A Source of Life". Honourable Vice-Chancellor Prof. Chakradhar Tripathi inaugurated the programme by lighting the lamp as the Chief Guest. In his address, Prof. Tripathi narrated the importance of soil and described soil in our Indian mythologies and classical literature; He also gave importance that all should take a pledge to conserve soil.

As Guest of Honour, Dr. P. K. Pattajoshi, AGM, NALCO, Damanjodi, Koraput, addressed the gathering and described the importance of soil and water in our lives. Dr. P. Raja, Principal Scientist, ICAR-IISWC, RC, Koraput; Dr. S. K. Samal, Scientist, ICAR-IISWC, RC, Koraput; Dr. Debabrata Panda, Senior Assistant Professor of Biodiversity & Conservation of Natural Resources, CUO; addressed this year's theme of World Soil Day and also explained the scientific aspect of the importance of soil. In this programme, Dr. D. Ramajayam, Head, ICAR-IISWC, RC, Koraput, and Dr. P. K. Mishra, Principal Aeronautics DAV School, Sunabeda, also addressed the audience.

The programme was coordinated, and a welcome address was given by Dr. Jayanta Kumar Nayak, Coordinator of the Department of Agriculture. In this programme faculty and students of the Department of Agriculture, Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Department of Forest Management of the Central University of Odisha, and also faculty and students of Aeronautics DAV School, Sunabeda, were presented.

All presented in this programme show different placates with relation to conservation of Soil and saving of Water. An exhibition was also made about the importance of soil and how to conserve soil. Students also interacted with experts and cleared their doubts. Dr. Jhumishree Meher, Guest Faculty, Department of Agriculture, Central University of Odisha, offered a vote of thanks. Dr. Debadatta Panda, Guest Faculty, Department of Agriculture, Central University of Odisha, anchored this programme. The programme was documented by the Public Relations Office of the Central University of Odisha.

Dr. Phagunath Bhoi, Public Relations Officer