

CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF ODISHA, KORAPUT

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC RELATIONS

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CUO organises seminar on *Mera Pehla Vote Desh Ke Liye*

As part of the campaign "*Mera Pehla Vote Desh Ke Liye*," initiated by the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Youth Affairs, Government of India, to ensure universal and enlightened participation of youth in the ensuing election, the Central University of Odisha organized a seminar on March 13, 2024, in the University campus for the students. Shri. Debabrata Maharana, Deputy Collector of Koraput district, attended the program as the Chief Speaker and motivated the students to participate more actively by casting their valuable votes in the election. The Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor of the University, Prof. Chakradhar Tripathi, and Registrar in-charge, Prof. N. C. Panda, conveyed their best wishes for the success of the program. The Proctor of the University, Prof. Bharat Kumar Panda, presided over the program. Dr. Ramendra Kumar Parhi, Dean of Students Welfare (DSW); Dr. Anjaneyulu Thotapally, Coordinator of NSS; and Dr. Phagunath Bhoi, Public Relations Officer, along with other faculty members, coordinated the program.

Prof. Panda elaborated on the principles of successful democracy and its various features in the context of the upcoming election in our country. He encouraged the young voters, i.e., the students of the University, to participate more actively in the democratic process. Shri. Maharana emphasized the importance of a vote in a democracy. He highlighted that our constitution grants equal rights to all citizens irrespective of caste, creed, religion, or class in participating in the democratic process. It is the responsibility of the students to properly utilize this constitutional right to make Indian democracy one of the model democracy in the world. He explained the electoral process, including downloading the Voter App, and emphasized the importance of ensuring that all students are enrolled.

Students and staff present at the occasion took the Voter's pledge, administered by Prof. Panda. Furthermore, they displayed placards with slogans regarding the power of the vote and voters, "*Mera Pehla Vote Desh Ke Liye*," and "*Chunav Ka Parv*," demonstrating their support for larger participation in the upcoming election.

Dr. Phagunath Bhoi, Public Relations Officer