

# CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF ODISHA, KORAPUT

## OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC RELATIONS

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### **Annual Sports Meet 2024-25 Concludes at Central University of Odisha**

The two-day Annual Sports Meet (ASM-2024-25) at the Central University of Odisha (CUO) was concluded successfully on 20 March 2025. Organized under the banner of the *Fit and Root* (Root to Land and Traditional Sports and Games) India Movement and *Vikashit Bharat Abhiyan*, the event was held under the leadership of Prof. Chakradhar Tripathi, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, CUO. The programme was organized by the Games & Sports Committee, CUO. In the valedictory session Deans of Schools including Prof. N. C. Panda, Prof. Rathikant Kumbhar and Dr. Ramendra Kumar Parhi, DSW were present on the dais along with the Vice-Chancellor.

In his address, Vice-Chancellor Prof. Chakradhar Tripathi emphasized the integral role of sports in education, drawing connections to India's ancient cultural traditions. He stressed that participation in sports helps students maintain mental well-being and fosters personal growth. Prof. Tripathi commended the organizers and university community for their involvement and called for even greater participation in future editions. He assured students that in the next two years, CUO would witness the development of a state-of-the-art, eco-friendly sports complex aligned with the *Indian Knowledge System*, promoting indigenous sports (*Mitti se Juda Hua Khel*).

The opening ceremony and valedictory session began with welcome remarks from Dr. Ramendra Kumar Parhi, Dean of Students' Welfare (I/C) and Chairman of the Games & Sports Committee. He outlined the various events conducted over the two days, highlighting the significance of sports in education and life. Mr. Biswajit Bhoi, Assistant Professor and Member Secretary of the Games & Sports Committee, expressed gratitude to all stakeholders—both on and off campus—who contributed to the success of the event and emphasized the university's vision for a sustainable, green sports complex in the future. The sessions were hosted by Dr. Sourav Gupta, Associate Professor, DJMC, along with student volunteers.

Sports Consultant Sanjay Gantayat, who mentored the event, underscored the importance of physical fitness and encouraged students to incorporate sports into their daily lives. He lauded the participants for their enthusiasm and active engagement.

The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from deans of various schools, faculty members, staff, and students, with over six hundred participants competing in sports such as *Khaparakati*, *Kit Kit*, badminton, chess, table tennis, cricket, long jump, high jump, javelin throw, shot put, and various track and field events.

The competitions began on February 25 with volleyball and badminton, culminating in track and field events on March 18-19. Over the course of a month, the meet also featured chess, table tennis, a campus run, guided group meditation, fitness aerobics, a fitness challenge walk for faculty and staff, and volleyball. Around 500 students took part with great enthusiasm, while faculty and staff actively participated in organizing and officiating events.

During the closing ceremony, certificates and trophies were awarded to all participants and winners by dignitaries, with Prof. Tripathi presenting the honors to encourage students. The event concluded with a formal vote of thanks delivered by Mr. Biswajit Bhoi, Member Secretary, Games & Sports Committee, CUO acknowledging the contributions of all involved. The programme was covered by Dr. Phagunath Bhoi, Public Relations Officer and his team.

Dr. Phagunath Bhoi, Public Relations Officer