

CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF ODISHA, KORAPUT

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC RELATIONS

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Fostering Forest Conservation: International Day of Forests Celebration at Central University of Odisha

The Department of Forestry at the Central University of Odisha celebrated the International Day of Forests with a series of engaging events aimed at promoting forest conservation and sustainability on 21 March 2025.

The event commenced with an exhibition inaugurated by the Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor Prof. Chakradhar Tripathi. The exhibition featured stalls by JK Paper Mills (Rayagada), ORMAS (Odisha Rural Development and Marketing Society), Ekta NGO, Hastashilpa Chandrakala (Jeypore), and students from the Department of Forestry. Showcasing innovative models and initiatives on sustainable forest management and biodiversity conservation, the exhibition received high praise from dignitaries for its informative and creative displays.

Prof. Tripathi lauded the Department of Forestry for its efforts in raising awareness about forest sustainability. In his inaugural address, Dr. N.C. Panda, Dean of the School of Integrated Agriculture & Natural Resources, highlighted the role of forests in mitigating climate change. Guest of Honour Mr. Bijoy Prasad Ratho emphasized industry responsibility in promoting sustainable forestry, while Chief Guest Prof. K.R. Ramesh of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University spoke on the importance of forestry education and research. Dr. Ramendra Kumar Parhi, Dean of Students' Welfare, encouraged youth involvement in forest conservation.

Head of the Department of Forestry, Dr. Subhasmita Parida, welcomed guests and emphasized the significance of the occasion. A special felicitation was conferred upon Shri Raghunath Jani by Vice-Chancellor Prof. Tripathi for his outstanding contributions to forestry and environmental conservation.

The event was efficiently coordinated with the support of faculty members, including Dr. Parida, Ms. Aiswaryalakshmi A.R., Mr. Jyotiraditya Das, and Dr. Aravind Prajapati. The celebrations successfully reinforced the importance of sustainable forestry and the need for collective efforts in preserving natural ecosystems.

Dr. Phagunath Bhoi, Public Relations Officer