

CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF ODISHA, KORAPUT

OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC RELATIONS

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Central University of Odisha Appoints Shri Duryodhan Sethi as Regular Finance Officer

After a prolonged vacancy of two years, the Central University of Odisha (CUO), Koraput has finally filled the key statutory post of Finance Officer. Shri Duryodhan Sethi assumed office on 30 May 2025, and officially took charge on 04 June 2025, succeeding Dr. Ashok Kumar Sahu, who had been holding the post in an interim capacity. The handing over ceremony took place in the presence of Dr. Rakesh Kumar Lenka, Registrar (I/c), CUO.

Prof. N.C. Panda, Vice-Chancellor (I/c) of the University, extended his congratulations and best wishes to Shri Sethi. He expressed optimism that with a full-time Finance Officer in place, the University would strengthen its administrative functions and continue to progress steadily.

Prior to joining CUO, Shri Sethi served as the Controller of Finance and Accounts at CSIR-Central Glass and Ceramic Research Institute (CGCRI), Kolkata. He brings with him over 30 years of experience in financial management, primarily within the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), an autonomous body under the Ministry of Science and Technology.

A seasoned professional, Shri Sethi has held key finance positions at various CSIR laboratories including CSIR-IMMT Bhubaneswar, CSIR-NEERI Nagpur, and CSIR-CGCRI Kolkata. His expertise spans budgeting, auditing, project accounting, works & services, procurement, and implementation of accounting systems. He played a pivotal role in the adoption of accrual accounting and the implementation of AMS software across CSIR labs for real-time budget and account management.

Shri Sethi also contributed significantly to internal audits across CSIR institutions and coordinated the UGC-CSIR NET examinations as well as several recruitment and departmental exams. His contributions have been widely recognized, earning him accolades for his dedication and effectiveness in financial administration.

An accomplished academic, Shri Sethi holds a Master's degree and M.Phil. in Political Science from Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi. He also earned an MBA in Financial Management from FM University, Balasore, and a Postgraduate Diploma in Financial Management from Utkal University. He qualified the UGC-NET for lectureship in 1991 and fellowship in 1993.

A native of Baman Bindha, Pirahat in Odisha's Bhadrak district, Shri Sethi has participated in numerous seminars, workshops, and training programs, and is known for his contributions to the professional development of finance personnel in R&D organizations.

Alongside Prof. Panda, several senior officials including Dr. Rakesh Kumar Lenka, Registrar (I/c), Dr. Phagunath Bhoi, Public Relations Officer, and Shri Manas Kumar Das, Assistant Registrar, also welcomed and congratulated Shri Sethi on his new role.

Dr. Phagunath Bhoi, Public Relations Officer