

**CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF ODISHA, KORAPUT**  
**OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC RELATIONS**  
PRESS RELEASE, DATE: 12.03.2025

**Startup Odisha Initiative at CUO to Encourages Student Entrepreneurs**

In a bid to inspire and encourage innovation among students, the Startup Odisha initiative, a government-led program designed to nurture entrepreneurial ideas, conducted an event at Central University of Odisha on 11 March 2025. The event, aimed at promoting student entrepreneurship, saw enthusiastic participation from students with groundbreaking ideas and innovative solutions. The Vice Chancellor of the University Prof. Chakradhar Tripathi wished all successes of the Programme.

A team of officials from *Startup Odisha*, Bhubaneswar, led by Senior Consultant Mr. S. Satpathy visited the CUO campus and interacted with the students and provided valuable insights into the startup ecosystem. On the occasion a special programme was organised on the campus with the initiative of the Nodal officers from CUO Dr. P.C. Mishra, Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Business Management and Dr. Manjushree Singh, Associate Professor and Head of the Department of Agriculture. Mr. Satpathy, in his speech praised the efforts of the University in nurturing future entrepreneurs and urged the students to create successful startups for the development of the state.

The program featured presentations from 17 student groups, each showcasing innovative ideas designed to address a wide range of challenges across sectors. The ideas were evaluated based on creativity, feasibility, and their potential impact. Following the presentations, winners were awarded for their exceptional ideas. On the occasion the three groups were designated as best presentations for the future startup. The awards are given below:

1<sup>st</sup> Prize: "Bio Bagasse Solutions" and "Dairy Tourism"

Presented by the students of B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture 2<sup>nd</sup> Semester, namely: Shubh Raj, Gaurav Kumar, Abhinav, Amit Kumar, Aditya Dhanraj and the students of B.Tech (Dairy Technology) 4<sup>th</sup> Semester, namely: Sraban Kumar Sahoo and Ajitesh Panigrahi, respectively.

2<sup>nd</sup> Prizes: "Smart Water ATM" and "The Am-MrutRestro (Millet House)"

Presented by the students of B.Sc. (Hons.) Agriculture 4<sup>th</sup> Semester, namely: Shravani Mohanty, Samidha Bhatra, Akankshya Khosla, Alka Padhi, Sarita Bag and students of MBA 2<sup>nd</sup> year, Digbijaya Swain and Ashish Mahapatra, respectively.

3<sup>rd</sup> Prizes: "Roughage-based TMR for Feed Palate" presented by the students of B.Tech Dairy Technology 4<sup>th</sup> Semester, namely, Santoshi Behera, Alisha Mahapatro, Avipsa Patnaik, Smruti Prajna Mohanty, Pratik Pattnaik, Rajendra Kumar Sahoo and "Community based Tourism in Koraput" by Rajesh Kumar Sahoo

The event highlighted the immense potential among the youth of Odisha and the role that the Startup Odisha initiative plays in fostering the spirit of entrepreneurship. The students were recognized not only for their innovative ideas but also for their drive to contribute to solving real-world problems. The event concluded on a high note, with the students expressing their excitement about further developing their ideas and taking them forward with the support of the Startup Odisha initiative.

Dr. Phagunath Bhoi, Public Relations Officer