

# CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF ODISHA, KORAPUT

## OFFICE OF THE PUBLIC RELATIONS

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### **Anti-Ragging Week Concludes at Central University of Odisha with 'Operation Durga' Launch**

The Central University of Odisha (CUO) concluded its week-long *Anti-Ragging Week* on 18 August 2025 with a valedictory ceremony held on campus. The campaign, which began on 12 August 2025, aimed to raise awareness against ragging and promote a safe, inclusive academic environment.

Marking the occasion, the Koraput District Police launched 'Operation Durga: Nari Surakhya', a special awareness drive focused on women's safety. Operation Durga, a national initiative, is dedicated to ensuring the safety of women and children in public spaces through proactive policing and public engagement.

The valedictory programme was presided over by Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor (In-Charge), Prof. N.C. Panda, and graced by Smt. Monobrata Satapathy, Additional Superintendent of Police, Koraput. Other dignitaries included Prof. Rathi Kanta Kumbhar, Professor of Economics and Chairman of CUO's Anti-Ragging Committee, women's counsellor Ms. Ritupurna Roy, and Smt. Sushama Kuanr, IIC, Sunabeda Police Station, who attended along with her team to underscore the importance of campus safety.

Dr. Deepthi Shanker, Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, welcomed the gathering and emphasized the need for continuous awareness programmes to maintain a positive and safe learning ecosystem.

Throughout the week, a series of student engagement activities were held, including essay and debate competitions in English, Hindi, and Odia, as well as poster-making, reel-making, and a campus rally, all aimed at sensitizing students about the harmful consequences of ragging.

In his presidential address, Prof. N.C. Panda highlighted the severe mental and physical impacts of ragging, urging students to follow proper protocols when reporting any such incidents. He also commended the faculty and students for their active involvement in the campaign.

Prof. R.K. Kumbhar gave a detailed briefing on both Operation Durga and CUO's anti-ragging initiatives and felicitated the guests with *angabastras* as a mark of respect.

Smt. Monobrata Satapathy, Additional SP, delivered a special address on '*Safety of Women and Children*', which was well received by students and faculty members alike.

The programme concluded with the announcement of competition winners by Prof. Kumbhar. Also in attendance were Dr. Sourav Gupta, member of the Anti-Ragging Committee; Prof. Bharat Kumar Panda; anti-ragging squad members; and other faculty and staff.

A formal vote of thanks was delivered by Dr. Nupur Patnaik, Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology.

*Dr. Phagunath Bhoi, Public Relations Officer, CUO*