



## भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान भुवनेश्वर Indian Institute of Technology Bhubaneswar

### 12<sup>th</sup> Foundation Day celebrated at IIT Bhubaneswar

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bhubaneswar celebrated its 12th Foundation Day on 12th February 2020. Shri Biswa Bhusan Harichandan, Hon'ble Governor of Andhra Pradesh graced the occasion as Chief Guest and inaugurated the function. Mr. Subroto Bagchi, Chairman, Odisha Skill Development Authority and Co-founder Mind Tree was the Guest of Honour and delivered the Foundation day Lecture on the topic, "*In search of Tomorrow*". The event was presided over by Prof. R.V. Raja Kumar, Director, IIT Bhubaneswar.

Prof. R. V Raja Kumar, Director, IIT Bhubaneswar, on this auspicious occasion, extended warm welcome to everybody and his heart-felt thanks to the Shri. Biswa Bhusan Harichandan, Hon'ble Governor of Andhra Pradesh, Chief Guest and Mr. Subroto Bagchi, Chairman, Odisha Skill Development Authority and Co-founder Mind Tree Guest of Honor as well as Smt. Susmita Bagchi, Chairperson, Mo School for taking time out from their busy schedule and gracing the occasion on 12th Foundation Day. He mentioned that the Institute has completed 11 long years and when he looks back at the last four years that has passed by where the Institute has constantly strived to raise the standards of the operations of the Institute on all fronts such as quality of education including teaching, learning, research and faculty and scaling up the current infrastructure in this endeavour. He also stressed that IIT Bhubaneswar has been prominent among the second generation IITs with largest student intake, prominent rankings across all international and national frameworks, he was very happy to mention that he could bring IIT Bhubaneswar level to that of a Senior IIT where they recently organized a grand Inter IIT Sports Meet in high standards. He also said that being the Director of the Institute, it gives him immense satisfaction to see that the Institute has grown to a level of a senior IIT in such a short span of time. However, he mentioned that a lot more needs to be done in the years to come. He also informed that the Institute will gracefully keep contributing to the societal development and progress of the nation with dedicated student and faculty engagements from time to time.

Shri Biswa Bhusan Harichandan, Hon'ble Governor of Andhra Pradesh, Chief Guest said that his visit to IIT Bhubaneswar filled his heart with great joy and it was indeed a pleasure to amongst all on the auspicious occasion of twelfth Foundation Day. He also gave a special mention that the Institute which started twelve years ago as a member of the extended family of the IIT system, emerged as the leading institution in the temple city of Bhubaneswar with the co-existence of several other premier Institutions of the country in the domains of science (NISER), medical (AIIMS), research (IIMT and IoP) etc., to name a few. He was also glad to mention that just within a little more than one decade of its existence, the Institute has started new Schools and new academic programmes on par with any other similar Institutions existing since several decades in the country. He was delighted to learn that the Institute had made its presence known globally by taking commendable proactive steps in getting international faculty and international collaborative projects and rising steeply by improving its standards for getting recognized as the highly ranked institute globally. He expressed his congratulations to Professor R. V. Raja Kumar, Director, IIT Bhubaneswar who with his tireless efforts and exemplary sincerity, had successfully led the Institute to achieve new heights. He was equally delighted on knowing about the successful co-hosting of one of the highly acclaimed events in IIT system – the Inter IIT sports meet in a grand manner at IIT Bhubaneswar attracting participation from 22 other IITs.



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The Hon'ble Governor also mentioned that this clearly proves that the Institute readiness to take up any challenges from time to time. He also called upon all technological leaders and social entrepreneurs for being the agents of change for transforming our country into the most developed countries of the world. Lastly, he wished IIT Bhubaneswar, a grand success in all its endeavours.

Mr. Subroto Bagchi, Chairman, Odisha Skill Development Authority and Co-founder Mind Tree, Guest of Honour in his foundation day lecture in search of tomorrow said that it was indeed his privilege to be present on this occasion. He considered it as an honour for both himself on being invited for the 12th Foundation Day Celebrations. He wanted to congratulate all of them on this occasion and acknowledge the great work done by each one of them. As he looks at the Educational Institution like the IITs, he mentioned that it requires time and is a process of infrastructure creation. The base is physical infrastructure and physical infrastructure can be created by anyone. But beyond physical infrastructure comes the digital infrastructure in this world. But differentiation comes when we are able to build Intellectual infrastructure and that is what makes one Institution different from the other institution. He mentioned that anybody can create a large building but very few can come close to creating something like an IIT. He said that the difference between all premier Institutions like IIT is their Intellectual Infrastructure which they have built over a period of time. He also emphasized that intellectual infrastructure in spite of having differentiation in today's world which is hyper connected is very temporal. He said that earlier differentiation used to last for ages but in today's world of internet connectivity, it has a very short span of time. According to him when one builds educational Institutions in research, differentiation alone is not enough, they need to think beyond it and create memorability and IITs truly define memorability. For building memorability, educational Institution must go well beyond the physical, intellectual, digital infrastructure and he mentions that one needs to create what is called as emotional infrastructure. The IIT's, NIT's, Stanfords, Harvards of the world is not just about physical, digital and intellectual infrastructure, they actually stand for something that is known as emotional infrastructure. He said now what builds emotional infrastructure needs to be looked across and for IIT Bhubaneswar as it goes forward to building great emotional infrastructure for it to be in the global class of Institutions in its journey ahead as dreamt by Prof. R.V Raja Kumar, Director, IIT Bhubaneswar.

Mr. Subroto Bagchi also talked about adversity and considering it as an opportunity as it give character. He gave emphasis on vision, leadership backed by strong research, uniqueness of rituals. Rich communication, adversity, creating of voluntary networks, building and abiding on vision and exclusivity before ending his speech. He along with Smt. Susmita Bagchi wished the Institution good luck for their journey ahead.



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The Chief Guest and Guest of Honor felicitated faculty of the Institute for their outstanding contribution in their respective fields. These are as follows:

1. **Dr. Pathikrit Bhattacharya**, Assistant Professor, School of Earth, Ocean and Climate Sciences - Distinguished Teaching Award Overall Best Performance
2. **Dr. Debapratim Ghosh**, Assistant Professor, School of Mechanical Sciences (SMS) - Commendation for overall good performance
3. **Dr. Rajakumar Guduru**, Assistant Professor, School of Humanities, Social Sciences & Management - Award for Teaching Excellence
4. **Dr. Vasudeva Rao Allu**, Associate Professor, School of Basic Sciences - Award for Commendable Teaching
5. **Dr. Sankarsan Mohapatro** Assistant Professor, School of Electrical Sciences - Award for Commendable Teaching
6. **Dr. Anoop Thomas**, Assistant Professor, School of Electrical Sciences - Award for Commendable Teaching

The day also witnessed successful execution and organizing of Open Day and Exhibition in the campus spanning across all of its schools from 09:30 AM to 5: 30 PM which attracted active participation from more than 8700+ students from various Schools and Colleges within and outside Odisha. In this Grand exhibition, the Institute faculty and students showcased the science and technology initiatives undertaken in various areas, such as Energy, Materials, Healthcare, Engineering, Physics, Chemistry and Biosciences at IIT Bhubaneswar through simple, easy to understand 250+ live experiments and exhibits. The motto was to promote and ignite the scientific learning curiosity among the students especially the girl child in particular, across all schools and colleges of Science and Engineering. It turned out to be an exciting and enriching experience for all the participating students. All the visiting students and volunteers are provided with hygienic lunch using contributions from several sponsors and Institute end. More than 8000 +students from various schools and colleges participated in this programme. On this day students excellence and faculty awards were also distributed. Apart from a number of colleges and schools from in and around Bhubaneswar, students of far of colleges from Berhampur, Balasore, Kendrapada and Rayagada visited IIT in large numbers and participated enthusiastically in the Exhibition

The inaugural ceremony ended with vote of thanks. The day ended with a cultural performance by the students of IIT Bhubaneswar.



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