

### **For unity, culture**

IIT Bhubaneswar observed the 'Rashtriya Ekta Diwas' to celebrate the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel at its permanent campus, Argul. The faculty, staff members and students took the Rashtriya Ekta Diwas to dedicate themselves towards preservation of unity, integrity and security of the nation. More than 500 students participated in a 'Run for Unity', covering eight km. The institute director, RV Rajakumar, also highlighted the contributions of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. Besides, SPIC MACAY founder, professor Kiran Seth visited the campus. He spoke about the power of Indian Classical music. A soulful flute performance was presented by pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia. IIT Bhubaneswar is one of the only tech institute in the city to have included Odissi in its curriculum.

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# STEPPING INTO 'FEST' MODE

Many events have been planned for the upcoming college fests in the city

## Express Features

It's that time of the year again when colleges in the city get into groove. The campuses go abuzz in anticipation of the upcoming festivities.

Students get busy in preparations with focus on bringing novelty to their festivals and making them stand out. From star-studded nights to power-packed band performances, innovative tech competitions, Bollywood-style rap battles and PUBG tourneys, the festivals will feature a variety of events this academic session. *The City Express* interacted with various student committees to bring you what's in store this year.

Xpressions, the annual flagship event of XIMB, is touted as the biggest management-cultural fest of eastern India. It is scheduled to take place from November 8 to 10. The students have been organising the festival since 1998. "It's a platform to showcase innovation and creativity. We also include lighter stage events and celebrity performances each year," said Kriti, a XIMB student.

The students have finalised their contest lists for the year. To begin with, Goonj, the solo singing competition will provide vocalists come on one po-

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—Kriti, a XIMB student

dium to create a powerful impact in the minds of the audience. Their contests include a dance competition titled 'Thirkan'; a band face-off 'Decibelz' and a thematic fashion event 'Carnival De Vogue.' This year, the institute will host a stand-up comedy act by Kumar Varun. And, finally the starry night will feature live performance of Bollywood singer Mika Singh. The grandeur of Xpressions-2019 will be supplemented by the innumerable business events that would test the acumen of the future corporate honchos.

IIT Bhubaneswar's Alma Fiesta will be held between January 17 and 19. "We are now busy preparing the events and star or artiste lists," said Deepak of IIT Bhubaneswar. However, the pre-Alma Fiesta fashion show, 'Aghaz', was hosted at Symphony Mall recently. It gave

student fashionistas a platform to flaunt their stylish side in front of a mixed crowd. The institute also hosts an one-of-its-kind technical fest, 'Wissenier.'

Students of AIIMS Bhubaneswar will host the annual festival, 'Chiasma' on their campus premises between February 14 and 17. The students have unleashed the logo of Chiasma 4.0 on social media platforms. IIT Bhubaneswar is yet to unleash details about its annual cultural and technical fest, Advaita. Other festivals like Phorensis and Festronix have not been finalised so far.

