

## Plantation drive organized at IIT Bhubaneswar on the Eve of World Environment Day

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Bhubaneswar: IIT Bhubaneswar on the eve of World Environment Day organized a plantation drive inside the campus aimed at campaigning for green culture and promoting a greener ecosystem along with providing a pollution-free atmosphere to the residents inside the campus adhering to the social distancing parameters in view of Covid-19. The drive was inaugurated by Prof R.V. Raja Kumar, Director, IIT Bhubaneswar.

We aim to create a good sense of social responsibility towards our Mother Nature and eco-friendliness through this initiative. We at IIT Bhubaneswar are committed towards building a green campus, we have achieved a fairly good amount of success in this endeavour, and the same will continue. Through such initiatives, we would like to set an example and particularly motivate the residents to contribute to the protection of the environment as active stakeholders, who would like to give back to our mother nature by contributing to a sustainable ecosystem. The Horticulture team at IIT Bhubaneswar has targeted to plant 5000 more trees of different varieties including fruit bearing trees in the campus for the coming semester. This initiative, I am sure would help in creating more awareness about the importance of growing trees to prevent global warming and thereby reducing pollution. At IIT Bhubaneswar, we also carry research on green technologies aiming at reducing the carbon footprint not only developing a product but also usage of the product,” said Prof. R.V. Raja Kumar, Director, IIT Bhubaneswar.

The plantation of the trees was successfully carried out as per the planned schedule. Many plant saplings of different types and large size were planted during the plantation drive. The plantation saw active participation from the Institute members, faculties, staff, their respective

families and students. Also participated in the drive were Prof. V. R. Pedireddi, Dean-Student Affairs, Dr. Srinivas Bhaskar, Pic (Horticulture) and Col (Dr.) Subodh Kumar, Registrar along with other faculty and staff members.

Through today's event, the faculty, staff and residents felt intimately connected with nature in their efforts of building a greener campus. The seeds of social and environmental responsibility sown at Indian Institute of Technology, Bhubaneswar is sure to bear fruit in the near future and go a long way.