



भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान भुवनेश्वर Indian Institute of Technology Bhubaneswar

AWARENESS PROGRAM ON SUBSTANCE ABUSE ORGANIZED AT IIT BHUBANESWAR

05th March, 2019 Bhubaneswar: Institutions should be an exciting, enriching experience to help ensure students and their parents to choose an Institute that fosters students' academic, social development and promotes campus and community safety, so keeping in tune with the same, the Counselling Services Team, IIT Bhubaneswar had organised an Awareness Program on Substance Abuse for the student community on 05th April, 2019. The event was presided by Prof. V.R. Pedireddi, Dean of Student Affairs along with Mr. Pranit Sarma, Superintendent and Mr. Viswanath Ghosh, Narcotics Control Bureau, Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof. V.R. Pedireddi, Dean of Student Affairs says, *"It is vitally important that we educate our youth about the dangers of drugs abuse, and that we provide them with the emotional support so that they do not develop the need to turn to substance use for comfort. It is also essential that parents, teachers and the youth themselves are educated about the signs and symptoms of substance abuse, so that they can identify it early on and get the affected person help as soon as possible. He also thanked the Chief Guests for taking time out to share their invaluable knowledge on such a vital topic."*

Mr. Pranit Sarma explained several complex aspects of substance abuse lucidly through the mode of power point presentation. He also touched upon on the different kinds of addiction along with citing the reasons such as curiosity, recreation being the main reason behind addiction. In addition, he brought into the knowledge of all present the preventive methods of tackling addiction along with showcasing the major change in the person's appearances before and after consumption of drugs.

Mr. Viswanath Ghosh, explained several complex aspects of substance abuse in an easy to understand manner by quoting live examples. To arouse and ascertain the curiosity of students, he put forward a direct question to the student whether they have ever seen brown sugar by taking out small folded paper packet from his pocket to which many students showed their keen interest and eagerness. In fact the paper was empty and was done just to arouse the curiosity. He also touched on the gravity of substance abuse and its harmful effects.

Both the speakers urged the students not to try drugs even for once as some narcotics and Psychotropic drugs are so powerful that they can make the person addicted in mere three doses and make them crave for the next dose by consuming it once. The session concluded with mementos being presented to the esteemed guests by Dean of Student Affairs followed by a vote of thanks to the dignitaries, students and all those present by Ms. Manisha Mishra, Counselling Psychologist. Also present at the event were Dr. Shantanu Pal, Associate Professor,



भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान भुवनेश्वर
Indian Institute of Technology Bhubaneswar

Dr. Srinivas Bhaskar Karanki, Assistant Professor, School of Electrical Sciences along with Ms. Gagandeep Kaur, Clinical Psychologist.