DIRECTOR'S REPORT

His highness Shri Ram Nath Kovind, Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji and Chief guest of the 6th Convocation, Guests of honour, Dr SC Jamir ji, Hon'ble Governor of Odisha, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan Ji, Hon'ble minister of PNG, Dr Satya Pal Singh ji, MoS for HRD, Shri Pankaj Ramanbhai Patel ji, Chairman, Board of Governors, Hon'ble Members of the Board of Governors and the Senate; distinguished guests; dear graduating students, their proud parents and guardians, esteemed faculty members, staff members of the Institute; representatives from the media and press; ladies and gentlemen!

– it gives me a great pleasure to extend a very warm welcome to you all to the 6th convocation of IIT Bhubaneswar in this scenic campus of the institute.

Today, we are privileged to have hon'ble Rashtrapatiji, who was gracious enough to accept our invitation to be the Chief Guest on this ceremonious occasion, where 150 BTech, 60 MTech, 71 MSc, and 14 Ph.D. students will be receiving their degrees. I am sure that the graduating students will find the presence of hon'ble Rashtrapati ji and the distinguished guests of honour in this convocation as one of the memorable moments in their life.

For the IIT Bhubaneswar family, it has been a wonderful journey of nine years during which the Institute grew steadily with its mission to become globally competitive. While the initial years went into creating transit facilities and establishing different academic operations, in the last three years, the institute took several initiatives in multiple fronts, such as the following, towards achieving its goal of becoming globally competitive:

- Rising of standards of the institute in all fronts to be at International Levels.
- Creating near-global class infrastructure the institute is one of the top few campuses, already,
- Global search for quality faculty and faculty of foreign origin,
- Internationalisation of its programmes
- Rising of accountability in teaching and research,
- · Encouraging quality than quantity in research,
- Establishing international collaborations on research of high industrial & societal relevance.
- Doubling of Ph.D student strength in 3 years.

Some of the notable achievements of the institute in the last three years, through intercalation of holistic education process with dedicated spirit of achieving excellence in teaching and research are as follows:

Rising of standards (teaching, research, faculty selections, transparency, governance, accountability, security, house-keeping, etc.).

- · Doubling of BTech and PhD intake in two years,
- For the first time the institute recorded improvement in closing ranks of BTech admissions, despite rise in total no of seats in the country,
- In the last three years, the institute has tripled its placements with one and half times rise in average salary,
- Very phenomenally 80% of placements of students has been in core industry which is a very desirable phenomenon markedly different from what has been happening in the country so far,
- The institute has achieved the first successes in raising faculty of foreign origin and the
 endeavor is continuing with three colleagues on roll at the moment, with assignments
 for duration ranging from 8 to 24 months and several others in pipe line,
- Phenomenal rise in entrepreneurship during 2015-17 from almost zero to setting up of an incubator, start-up center and setting stage for setting up the IITBBS Research & Entrepreneurship Park by the end of 2017.

Now, I take the privilege of sharing with you a brief account of our journey emphasizing achievements and important milestones in the year 2016-17, in fulfilling our dream of building an institute of global class in near future.

Performance in Institutional Rankings:

The actions taken in the recent times have resulted into a speedy growth of the institute which has also started showing up a significant rise in institute's ranking performance. The all India engineering institutional rank by NIRF went up to 18 in 2016-17 from 26th in 2015-16. In Tmes-i3RC, it went up to 16 from 37 while Edu-Rand ranked IIT Bhubaneswar at all India 11th rank in 2016-17. The rising trend will continue.

Infrastructure Creation:

During 2015-17, the institute was engaged in solving problems developed due to rescinding of works and disputes with architect, getting the infrastructure building under Phase-1 speeded up, getting it completed and occupying the same. Towards the end of financial year 2016-17, MHRD, Govt of India sanctioned Rs 850 Crore to the institute for Phase-2 constructions needed to complete the institute complete in all respects for a student strength of 2500.

The institute went on a serious planning exercise, significantly improved the master plan and came out with outstanding planning and the architectural designs for phase-2 buildings. In view of shortage of student accommodations in the campus (only 1000 against the student strength of 1468), construction of one Boys' Hostel (800 Seater) and a Girls' Hostel (400 Seater) was initiated and work started by May 2017 with a target of completing the same within 18 months.

The rest of the Phase-2 infrastructure for which architectural designs were completed by end of 2016-17 includes,

- Boys' Hostel (800 Seater)- 1 No.
- Type A Faculty Qtrs (44 Nos)-2 unit,
- Type –B Faculty Qtrs (88 Nos) -4 unit,
- Type –C Staff Qtrs (88 Nos)-4 unit,
- Type –D Staff Qtrs (44 Nos) 2 unit,
- · Director's Bungalow,
- Student activity centre (including swimming Pool 50 x 25M),
- Dispensary,
- Auditorium (1500 Capacity).
- School of Minerals, Metallurgical and Materials, Engineering,
- · School of Earth Ocean & Climate Sciences,
- · School of Humanities, Social Sciences & Management,
- Central Workshop,
- · Central Research and Instrumentation facility,
- Lecture Theater (60 Seater Class room-24 Nos., 120 Seater Class room-11 Nos., 240 Seater Class room 2 Nos.),
- Playground and other sports facilities (about 1, 00,000.00 Sqm area approx.),
- · Water works.
- STP & ETP.
- · Roof top solar PV Power plants,
- Commercial complex (Academic),
- Commercial complex (Residential),
- Kendriya Vidyalaya,
- · Extension of SES building.

Green Campus Initiatives:

IIT Bhubaneswar is very keen on developing an inspiring green, zero energy drawing and zero discharge campus. The horticulture centre of the IIT Bhubaneswar which was started in May 2015 is dedicatedly working on the development of campus with full of greenery and vibrant, including exotic, indigenous, ever green and deciduous trees and plants (long-life, tall/medium trees, flower and medicinal trees, fruit trees, palm and pine trees). During the last monsoon, massive plantation of tall avenue plants including flowering, shading and evergreen trees (600), palms (77), short variety coconut trees (10), shrubs (3000 nos., shrubs), fountain grass and lawn grass (5000 sq mtrs) was carried out in the areas of school buildings, main road sides, road medians, islands and circles to create a vibrant look and combat environmental pollution, and also create a great ambience in the campus. Different varieties of plants/trees

were chosen to make our surrounding look beautiful and peaceful. The avenue trees can sooth and relax us by providing pleasant smell. The fruit trees can add music to our life by attracting birds and other animals. The road median landscaping is developed in a holistic approach to the entire stretch to maintain visual appearance in colorful patterns. Many varieties of shrubs have been planted to enhance the soft natural ambience. The centre also focuses on setting up a nursery gardens and green parks in our campus and also providing the tree name tags including the botanical name in English, Hindi and Odia.

Academic Programmes:

With an objective to fulfill the aspirations of the society, this year we started new 5-year Dual degree programme in 5 disciplines, one each in Schools of Mechanical Sciences, Infrastructure, Minerals, Metallurgical & Materials Engineering and two in School of Electrical Sciences. Intake of the BTech students is increased from 260 to 350 in a significant step which made IIT Bhubaneswar to have the highest intake amongst 2nd and 3rd generation IITs. Now, growth is going to be a phenomenon, almost every year. With this the number of programmes at the institute includes BTech programmes in 6 branches of Engineering (Computer Sciences, Electrical, Electronics & Communications, Mechanical, Civil, and Metallurgical & Materials), 5-year Dual degree programmes in 9 disciplines, M. Tech. in 10 specializations and MSc in 5 disciplines (Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, Geology and Atmosphere & Climate Sciences) besides Ph.D. in almost all the disciplines ranging across the BTech., MTech and MSc Programmes. Currently the Institute has 1464 Students (BTech - 911, MTech - 211, MSc – 136, and PhD - 206), 112 full-time faculty members, 15 officers and other supporting staff.

Research & Development Activities:

There has been considerable progress at the institute on Research and Development front in the last one year. A total of 88 sponsored and consultancy projects worth about Rs 23 Crore have been sanctioned to the Institute during the year, from different funding agencies. Besides these sanctioned projects, 60 project proposals worth about Rs 48 Crore have been submitted during the last one year to different funding agencies. The major funding agencies are MHRD, DST, CSIR, UGC, ISRO, DRDO, ICSSR, DAE, CPRI, DAC, DBT, Deity, NALCO, NPOL, IUSSTF, INCOIS, MoES, IITM, NCAOR, BRNS, KPIT, P&C Dept.-Govt. of Odisha etc. The various major areas covered by these projects are: Advance Materials, Energy, Nanotech Hardware, Health Care, Defense, CS & ICT, Environmental Sciences & Climate Change, Water Resources & River Science, Manufacturing and Sustainable Urban Design. Our faculty members participated in major initiatives of MHRD like IMPRINT, Uchhatar Avishkar Yojana (UAY), etc.

Some of the worth quoting recent Industry-Academia collaborations and R&D initiatives as well as projects connected to the National/State Missions are as follows: An MoU was signed with the Indian Army on 16th March, 2017 for R&D collaboration of mutual interest. The

Institute also entered into an agreement with M/s KPIT Technologies Limited, Bangalore. Two project proposals were taken up in the area of Driver behaviour modelling in the first phase.

One of the notable industrial collaborations was with National Aluminium Company (NALCO) as a consequence of which three projects worth Rs. 1.50 Crores have been funded by NALCO. The Institute also initiated two collaborative projects under Uchchatar Avishkar Yojana where NALCO and National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) are the industrial partners as well as MHRD, Ministry of Mines & Ministry of Steel are the counterparts. A broad based Research Cooperation Agreement was signed with the National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) on 9th October 2017. A research collaboration agreement was also signed with Indo-US Science and Technology Forum on 25th September 2017 for research collaboration on "Smart Distribution System with Storage". Under this agreement, IIT Bhubaneswar, as a consortia partner, has been awarded with the 7.5 M USD. Another worth quoting initiative of the Institute funded by NALCO is in the area of utilization of industrial wastes for developing an environmental friendly geo-polymer concrete using red mud alone, fly ash alone, and a combination of red mud and fly ash.

The Institute is also actively participating in the national level efforts namely: "IMPacting Research, Innovation and Technology (IMPRINT)" in ten identified research domains of national interest. Two of the project proposals worth Rs 1.60 Crore approved under IMRINT. Similarly, 4 proposals worth Rs 3.51crore have been submitted for consideration under the Uchhatar Avishkar Yojna.

Proposals worth around Rs. 92.00 crore are in pipe line for setting up of five Centres of Excellence (CoE) in different research domains namely: (a) Centre for Advance Research in Next Generation Networks (CARNGN) (b) Centre of Excellence in Precision and Micro Manufacturing (c) Centre of Excellence on Cooling and Energy Store Technology (d) Centre of Excellence on Land, Water, Energy and Climate (e) Centre of Excellence on Regional Climate and Coastal Hazards.

A significant activity of the Institute is the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan(UBA), a flagship mission of MHRD, in which our Institute is participating actively and have adopted six villages. One worth quoting activity under UBA is development of Science Labs by the Institute in two schools of the two adopted villages under UBA, which were inaugurated by the Director on 14th July 2017 in the presence of the Sub-collector of the District, as well as students and faculty members.

Research Publications & Patents:

During the last one year, the institute contributed to creating new knowledge by publishing more than 349 research articles including, 227 research papers in National and International Journals of repute and high impact journals, 14 Book-chapters and one book edited. Besides, 107 papers were presented in various national and international conferences in India and abroad and 15 patents have been filed.

School-wise publication list during the last one year is as follows:

School	Book Chapter	Book Edited	Journal publications	Conference publications	Total Publications
Basic Sciences	0		97	9	106
Earth, Ocean & Climate Sciences	5	1	18	12	36
Electrical Sciences	2		43	38	83
Humanities, Social Sciences & Management	1		5	3	9
Infrastructure	3		26	29	58
Mechanical Sciences	1		24	14	39
Minerals, Metallurgical & Materials Engineering	2		14	2	18
Total	14	1	227	107	349

International Faculty at IITBBS – A New Initiative:

The Institute took up a new initiative to appoint faculty from other countries for a period of one semester to two years. This has expectedly infused new dimension in pedagogy, research collaboration and internationalizing education at IIT Bhubaneswar. A few notable names are Prof Luis Malera, USA; Prof Matjaz Kovse, Slovenia; Prof Scott Andrew Whattam, Canada and Prof Tian C. Zhang, USA. There are some more faculty of foreign origin selected and likely to join shortly at IIT Bhubaneswar.

Teaching Excellence Award Initiatives:

- In an endeavour to create an environment of teaching-learning of high order, faculty
 members who got highest rating in student feedback on courses and teaching, have been
 honoured with teaching excellence awards. The list of faculty members who were
 honoured includes the following:
 - Dr. Mihir Kumar Pandit, School of Mechanical Sciences
 - Dr. Arindam Sarkar, School of Infrastructure
 - Dr. Yogesh Ganpat Bhumkar, School of Mechanical Sciences
 - Dr. (Mrs) Kumkum Mohanty, School of Humanities, Social Sciences and Management

Awards & Honours Received by Faculty:

Several academic distinctions, honours, distinguished fellowships, associate ships, named lectureships, coveted medals and awards have been bestowed on our faculty, staff and students in recognition of their academic achievements, during the last year. Examples of

these distinctions include:

International Travel Support from SERB, to attend APS-URSI 2017 Conference in San Diego, California;
Best-in-session-presentation award in the technical session of IoT, 35th annual IEEE International Conference on Computer Communications (INFOCOM), 2016;
Bhaskara Advanced Solar Energy (BASE) Fellowship;
KIST Flagship Project (Project No.2E27190) Grant, South Korea, 2017;
Editor- IEEE Transactions on Smart Grid; Guest Editor- IEEE Sensor Journal Special Issue on "Smart Sensors for Smart Grids and Smart Cities";
2016 ASCE State of the Art of Civil Engineering Award;
IGS-ONGC Biennial Award from Indian Geotechnical Society;
Full financial support to attend International Symposium on South East Asian Water and Environment (SEAWE 2016) held in Nov 2016 in Hanoi, Vietnam;
Prof. B K Subba Rao Gold Medal for Best PhD Thesis (2014-15, IISc, Bangalore);
ISEES Young Scientist Award 2017; BRICS Young Scientist Conclave held from 11-15 July 2017, Hangzhou, China.

Collaborative Research:

The Institute is very actively engaged in collaborative research with many reputed universities and research organizations across the world. Some of the collaborating universities include, Shangai Jiotung University, China, Warwick Manufacturing Group, University of Warwick, UK; Washington University in St. Louis, USA; University of Massachusetts Dartmouth USA; University of Southampton UK; National Oceanography Centre (NOC) UK; Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute USA; University of Concepcion, Chili; University of Surrey, London, UK; University of Manchester, UK; University of British Colombia; University of Quebec, Canada; University of Waterloo, Canada; York University, Canada, Texas A&M University, USA and many other reputed universities for joint research, student internship and faculty visits.

About 36 faculty members and 6 students visited foreign countries on various academic and research assignments and paper presentations. The institute also had an innumerable number of distinguished visitors for academic, research and other collaborative programmes.

Distinguished Visitors:

A large number of distinguished personalities visited the Institute on different occasions, addressed the faculty, students and staff. The visitors include, Swami Dr. Mangalteertham, the director of Nutan Sanjeevani Sansthan, Deoghar, Padma Shri Prof. Kota Harinaryana, Prof. Surendra Prasad, Chairperson, National Board of Accreditation (Former Director, IIT Delhi), Shri Rajiv Ranjan, IPS, Superintendent of Police, CBI, Anti Corruption Wing, Bhubaneswar, Prof. V. Ramgopal Rao, Director, IIT Delhi, Prof. Pradipta Banerji, Director, IIT Roorkee, Prof.

Indranil Manna, Director, IIT Kanpur, Prof. Rajeev Sangal, Director, IIT BHU, Prof. U. B. Desai, Director, IIT Hyderabad, Prof. Timothy A. Gonsalves, Director, IIT Mandi, Prof. Pushpak Bhattacharyya, Director, IIT Patna, Prof. Sarit Kumar Das, Director, IIT Ropar, Prof. Amit Prashant, Shri G. C. Pati, IAS, Former Chief Secretary, Govt. of Odisha, Prof. Binayak Rath, Former Vice-Chancellor, Utkal University, Dr. S. P. Mohanty, General Manager, Reserve Bank of India, Bhubaneswar, Shri R. L. Mohanty, Chairman, MGM Minerals Ltd., Bhubaneswar, Prof. M. Ramamoorty, Ex. Director General, CPRI, Bangalore, Prof Saifur Rahman, IEEE PES President Elect, Prof S C Srivastave, IIT Kanpur, Dr N D R Sarma, Texas A & M University. Dr Saikat Chakrabarti, IIT Kanpur, Prof Bhim Singh, IIT Delhi, Prof Mahesh Kumar, IIT Madras, Prof S A Soman, and Prof Anil Kulkarni, IIT Bombay, Ms Kumud Wadhwa, PGCIL and Prof Sandeep Shukla, IIT Kanpur, Prof Anirudhra Gole from Univeristy of Minitoba. Canada, Prof Anil Pawhs from Kansas State University, USA, Prof Anurag Srivastava, Washington State University, USA, Prof Chanan Singh, Texas A &M, USA, Dr Rambabau Adapa, EPRI, USA, Prof V Aijarapu from Iowa State University, USA, Dr Ratan Das from icaPower, USA and Mr S K Soonee, Ex CEO, POSOSCO. Mrs. Paramita, Mahapatra (MD, UMSL Limited), Prof. Damodar Acharya, Former Director, IIT Kharagpur and Chairman Advisor Board, SOA University Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Hon'ble Minister of State -Independent Charge, Petroleum and Natural Gas, Govt. of India, Prof. V. Chandrasekhar, Director, National Institute of Science Education and Research (NISER), Prof. A. Srinivasan, Professor in School of Chemical Sciences, NISER. Dr. Rajashree Bothale, Senior Scientist & Head of Water Resource Division, National Remote Sensing Centre, Hyderabad, Prof. Datta V. Gaitonde, Ohio State University, USA, Prof. Kaliappa Kalirajan, The Australian National University, Australia, Prof. Sunil Kumar, United Arab Erimates, Prof Michael Butler Southampton, England United States of America, Professor Danny L. Yeager, Chemistry Department, Texas A&M University, Dr. Sanjay Kumar Shukla, Edith Cowan University, Australia, Prof. Subhamoy Bhattacharya, University of Surrey, United Kingdom, Prof. Joaquim M.C. Correia, DMat, ECT, University of Évora, Portugal, Prof. Krishna R. Reddy, University of Illinois, USA, Dr. Ehab Al-Shaer, University of North Carolina Charlotte, United States of America, Prof. Devdutt Niyogi, Purdue University, United States of America, Prof. Laxmi Narayan Bhuyan, University of California Riverside, United States of America, Prof. Fabio Nobile, Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne, Switzerland, Prof. Wynand JvdM Steyn, University of Pretoria, South Africa, Dr. Stefano Vignudelli, Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (NRC), Italy, Prof. Sumon K. Sinha, President, SINHATECH, United States of America, Dr. Abdul Rawoof Pinjari, University of South Florida, United States of America, Prof. David A kopriva, The Florida State University, United States of America, Dr Carl Thompson, Trent University, United Kingdom, Prof. T. N. Krishnamurti, Florida State University, United States of America, Professor Binayak Mohanty, Texas A&M University, United States of America, Prof. A. Paulraj, Stanford University, Mr. M. H. Dalmia, President OCL India Limited, Mr. S. Bagchi, Chairman, Odisha Skill Development Authority, Dr. R. Sinha, Sinha Research, Switzerland, Mr. J. R. Dash, Consultant in Silicon Valley, Prof. C. Ray, Director, Nebraska Water Center, Prof. K. K. Parhi, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Prof. P. M. Ajayan, Rice University, Prof. K. Chowdhury, IIT Kharagpur, Padma Shri Dr. T. P. Das, Vice Chairman, LVP Eye Institute, Mr. A. Trigunayat, (Ambassador, IFS Retd.), Prof. Avijit Gangopadhya, University Massachusetts Dartmouth, USA., Prof. Subrata Pradhan from IPR, Gandhinagar, Prof. H. S. Mani, Chennai Mathematical Institute, Chennai (Former Director, Harish-Chandra Research Institute, Allahabad), Prof. Purusottam Jena, Distinguished Professor of Physics at Virginia Commonwealth University, Prof. Sudhakar Panda, Director, Institute of Physics, Bhubaneswar, Prof. D. D. Sarma, Solid State and Structural Chemistry Unit, IISc Bangalore, Prof. Ashok Das, Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of Rochester, USA, Prof. B. S. Panda, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, Prof. S. Thangavelu, Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, Prof. Christopher W. Bielawski, University Distinguished Professor at Ulsan National Institute of Science and Technology, Department of Chemistry, Korea.

Student Activities:

The Students' Gymkhana at IIT Bhubaneswar is a central hub for all round development of students. The major councils under Students' Gymkhana are Social & Cultural, Science & Technology and Sports & Games, which remain active throughout the year. The annual techno-management fest Wissenaire'17, socio-cultural fest Alma Fiesta'17, and Entrepreneurship meet E-Summit'17 have set a distinguished mark in the eastern zone. Other notable events include a children Fest "Bachpan Ka Rangmanch", A newspaper donation drive, A tree plantation drive, Cloth donation drive, NAI DISHAYEN – interaction and teaching program for students in villages adjoining the campus. Neuromancers (the Programming Society), the Robotics Society, the Web and Design Society participated in the technical fests of other IITs. The CineWave, won 1st and 3rd Prize in Ad-Making and Documentary competition in Spring Fest, IIT Kharagpur. Two students, are selected for Google Summer of Code (GSoC), and a student achievement at Global Peace Conference, Bhubaneswar etc.

Achievements and Prizes won by Students: Students and student groups also won several awards at conferences and interinstitutional competitions including the following:

- Mr. Abinash Ankit Raut Summer Internship Fellowship, Korea Institute of Science and Technology, South Korea and IKST Bangalore 2017,
- Mr. Apurba Narayan Das (M.Sc. Geology) got GERMI summer intern fellowship 2016,
- Mr. Ashutosh Acharya (Ph.D. Scholar), Ms. Babita Jangir (Ph.D. Scholar) and Ms. Annu Panwar (M.Sc. Atmosphere and Ocean Sciences) got awarded the TROPMET conference, Dec 2016.
- Mr. Asutosh Acharya received financial support for participation in the prestigious European Research Course on Atmospheres (award amount 2900 Euro) held during 11th January to 9th February, 2017 at University of Grenoble, FRANCE,
- Mr. Debi Prasanna Sahoo, UCR Research Fellowship, 2016-2017,
- Mr. Debi Prasanna Sahoo, VLSID fellowship to attend VLSID Conference, 2017,
- Mr. Deepak Kumar-POSOCO Power System Award (Doctoral Category)-2016,
- Mr. Himadri Baisya (Ph.D Student-SEOCS) awarded best Poster at Monsoon Conference 2016 at IITM Pune,
- Mr. Jeeban Nayak from School of Basic Sciences received 1st prize for best poster award

in the poster presentation session on the National Science Day (and Annual Research Scholars' Day) on February 28, 2017,

- Mr. K. Sudarshan, Shreyans Srimal, and Keshav have won IBM I-CARE Watson Cognitive Challenge 2016,
- Mr. Loknath Tripathy-POSOCO Power System Award (Doctoral Category)-2016.
- Mr. Pankaj Dilip Achlerkar-POSOCO Power System Award (Masters Category)-2017.
- Mr. Praveen Kumar (M.Sc. Atmosphere & Ocean Sciences), Mr. Rishav Goyal (M.Tech. Climate Science and Technology), Mr. Pintu Layek (M.Sc. Geology), Mr. Archan Ganguly(M.Sc. Geology) and Ms. Joyita Chattaraj (M.Sc. Geology) got Joint Indian Academies Summer Research Fellowship Award 2016,
- Mr. R Krishnan, Google Summer of Code Stipends Program, 2017.
- Mr. Rahul Kumar Dubey (IIT Delhi)-POSOCO Power System Award (Doctoral Category)-2017.
- Mr. Rahul Reddy, Summer Internship Fellowship, Korea Institute of Science and Technology, South Korea and IKST Bangalore, 2017.
- Mr. Samir Debnath(M.Sc. Geology), 8th Rank in UPSC-combined Geoscience Examination.
- Mr. Samiran Mandal (Ph.D. Student-SEOCS) and Mr. Samar Kumar Ghose (Ph.D. Student-SEOCS) got first and third prize in the best poster presentation in Workshop at National Institute of Technology (NIOT), Chennai.
- Mr. Santosh Kumar Behera, ICPR-MVA Conference International Travel Grant, 2017.
- Mr. Satyanarayan Dhal has received best poster award (First prize) in international conference on Ion Beam in Materials Engineering and Characterizations 2016 (IBMEC 2016), from 28 Sep – 1st Oct 2016, held at IUAC, New Delhi.
- Mr. Satyanarayan Dhal and Dr. Shyamal Chatterjee from School of Basic Sciences received Ganesh Mishra Memorial Award from the Institute of Engineers (India) 2016,
- Mr. Shashikant Singh (M.Sc. Geology) got Atomic Mineral Directorate, Gol Summer Studentship 2016,
- Mr. Shreyans Srimal, Google Summer of Code Stipends Program, 2017.
- Mr. Sourav Dutta (M.Sc. Geology) got Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad Summer Fellowship Award 2016,
- Mr. Subrota Halder (M.Sc. Atmosphere & Ocean Sciences-SEOCS), Second Prize in Best Poster at Research Conclave'17, IIT Guhawati,
- Mr. Swargam Avinash, Summer Internship, SRFP Fellowship 2016.
- Ms. Manisha Das and Mr. Nishant Vats Ph.D students from SEOCS got PAGES financial support of 1500 Euro each to attend 1st CVAS workshop at Universität Hamburg, Germany during May 2017.
- · Ms. Nibedita Behera and Mr. Samar Kumar Ghose, PhD Students at the School of Earth,

Ocean and Climate Sciences participated in the Earth System Sciences Organization-Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (ESSO-INCOIS) Ocean Observation Networks (OON) cruise to Bay of Bengal during 16th December 2016 to 3rd January, 2017 onboard Ocean Research Vessel Sagar Nidhi.

• Ms. Susmita Kar-POSOCO Power System Award (Doctoral Category)-2017.

Alumni Activities:

The alumni affairs and international office at the institute serves as outward-facing window from the Institute to the Alumni by extending several facilities and services to the alumni. IIT Bhubaneswar has created an Alumni database to serve as a hallmark to remain connected with its alumni.

Indian Institute of Technology Bhubaneswar has conducted its first Alumni Meet during 14th April to 16th April, 2017 at its new permanent campus to help them take a stroll down the memory lane and to unite all the alumni. The meet was participated by around 50 alumni ranging across various batches from BTech, MTech, MSc and PhD The successful conductance of the 1st Alumni Meet could seed the fanatical bonding of Alumni with the Institute.

Within a short span of the Institute's existence, few Alumni have been selected and joined in Indian Administrative Services and Indian Engineering Services. Almost 15-20 of our Alumni have already started their own start-ups. A good number of the Alumni took up higher studies in foreign Universities like Stanford University, the Ohio State University, University of California, University of Texas, University of Minnesota, University of British Columbia, University of Colorado and many more. Many also joined premier management Indian institutes like IIMs, XLRI etc.

Entrepreneurship & Startup Activity:

IIT Bhubaneswar drafted a vision paper for encouraging entrepreneurship at the institute, put and Entrepreneurship Cell (E-Cell) in place and took very ambitious steps in the last two years. To motivate the students for Entrepreneurship E-Cell started E-Day culture. The E-Cell organized two E-Days in this year — First E-Day on 18th August 2017 with talk by young Entrepreneur Mr. Srikumar Mishra, and the second E-Day on 6thOct 2017 with interactive talk by successful entrepreneur Mr. Subroto Bagchi.

Technology Incubator:

The Institute has established a Technology Incubation Centre to facilitate incubation of ideas of its students, alumni and faculty members for conversion into successful prototypes. The Centre provides up to Rs. 2 lakh grant to the selected teams towards consumables, and allows use of its workshops and laboratories for their use. Three teams of incubatees have been successfully graduated from the centre and five teams are currently working in the centre.

Startup Centre:

A Startup Centre has been established at IIT Bhubaneswar with a grant of Rs.1.50 Crore from the Department of Science & Technology and the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India. The overall objective of the Centre is to inculcate a culture of innovation-driven entrepreneurship in and around IIT Bhubaneswar and to promote technology and innovation based startups. The Centre was inaugurated on 20th June 2016. Individuals, teams of individuals, and industrial enterprises have been invited through open advertisements to open their startups in the Centre. As many as 12startups are registered in this centre till now.

IIT Bhubaneswar has also been nominated as a nodal agency by Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises Department, Government of Odisha, to promote the Startup Odisha initiatives. Till the end of September 2017, total thirty-seven startup applications have been approved by IIT Bhubaneswar on Startup Odisha portal.

Continuing Education Programme (CEP):

Continuing Education is part of the IIT Bhubaneswar's outreach programmes created to extend its arm for the promotion and extension of the science and technology benefits to the society, apart from its main focus of teaching and research.

Eleven number of conferences and workshops have been organized by the institute to foster scholarly exchange of ideas and research collaboration in the last year. A few of the notable ones are listed below.

- A workshop on "Innovative and Sustainable Energy Technologies-iSET-01" in collaboration with Planning and Coordination Dept., Govt of Odisha,
- A workshop on "Affordable Housing: Materials and Technologies",
- A colloquium on "Dynamical Analysis of Cluster-Molecule Reactivity" and a workshop on "Belle Analysis",
- Workshops on "Robotics" and "Patent Writing" by the Design & Innovation Centre,
- A workshop on "Business Plan, Opportunities and Risks and Sources of Funding" by E-cell.

One of the Flagship programs of the Ministry of Human Resource Development, Government of India – GIAN (Global Initiative of Academic Networks) has been initiated to conduct short term courses inviting Guest Faculty from abroad and currently about 25 short term courses have been approved and 22 of them have already been conducted with the support ten eminent professors of foreign origin and 12 renowned Indian professors working in foreign universities.

Furthermore, in executing the vision of hon'ble Prime Minister and contributing in implementing the PM-YUVA. IIT Bhubaneswar has been identified as the Nodal E- Hub for the eastern zone. In this respect, IIT Bhubaneswar will be monitoring activities i.e. coordination with Higher Educational Institutions (Colleges), Schools, Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) and Entrepreneurship Development Centres (EDCs) and Coordination with the Sector Skill Councils (SSCs) and other industry groups; of almost 60 Project Institutes.

Under the "Ishan Vikas" scheme of Ministry of Human Resource and Development (MHRD), IIT Bhubaneswar hosted 42 school students, belong to various Secondary Schools, from North-East region of India, representing the states of Assam, Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram, during 7-21 December 2016. The Institute organized a series of lectures by eminent experts, practical training sessions, laboratory visits, entertainment programs and including day trips to many sites of historical importance in and around the city of Bhubaneswar including a light and sound show illustrating the life experiences of the "Samrat Ashoka". All the students were also exposed to the importance of Yoga by conducting the classes every day in the early morning session.

Career Development Cell (CDC):

The placement activities in 2016-17 have witnessed many first-time milestones.

- Undergraduate placement was about 85% and M Tech placements were close to 80%.
- Highest foreign CTC offered was 38 lakh in INR.
- · Highest domestic CTC offered was 21 lakh in INR.
- Average salary is 9.5 lakh per annum, a rise of 35% compared to previous year.
- Highest number of job offers are from core industries.
- 75 % rise in placements this year as compared to previous year.
- No. of companies visited 46 (Major being core).
- PSU's like ISRO, IOCL, BPCL, NCCBM participated in the campus placements.
- Many initiatives are being taken for further enhancing the placements for next year 98.

Women's Grievance Redressal Committee (WGRC):

In the year 2016-17, WGRC conducted a workshop "Lighting the lamp in you" addressing women's empowerment and legal awareness, a three day self-defense training programme as well as various theme based competitions for students and staff of IIT Bhubaneswar. In connection with Women's day 2017, WGRC organized a health and hygiene awareness programme and talk by Dr Rajashree Bothale on "A scientific expedition to Antarctica". The event was concluded with cultural programmes by student, staff and faculty members of IIT Bhubaneswar.

Computer and IT Services Cell (CITSC):

CITSC implemented a Unified Communication System (Telephone Exchange) for use by the different Schools/Departments/Centres in the permanent campus of IIT Bhubaneswar at Argul. CITSC implemented hardware-based firewall solutions for Authentication in the permanent campus of IIT Bhubaneswar. Also it developed and implemented additional Enterprise Resource Planning modules by the CITSC in-house team for IIT Bhubaneswar"

Graduates of the Year:

In this convocation 150 B.Tech., 60 M.Tech., 71 M.Sc., and 14 Ph.D. students will be receiving their degrees, totaling 295.

Mr. Kamal Nayan Reddy Challa, Computer Science and Engineering won the coveted President of India Gold Medal for topping all B. Tech branches.

Mr. Rishav Goyal, Climate Science and Technology won the coveted Director's Gold Medal for topping all MTech specializations.

Mr. Partha Sarathi Jena, Geology won the coveted Director's Gold Medal for topping all MSc branches

The following students won the Institute Silver medals for topping in their respective branches/specializations as shown below:

Institute Silver Medal for topping in BTech branches:

Kamal Nayan Reddy Challa	Computer Science and Engineering	
Vishwas Chandra Khan	Mechanical Engineering	
Yogendra Singh Patel	Civil Engineering	
Harleen Hanspal	Electrical Engineering	

Institute Silver Medal for topping in MTech specializations:

Rishav Goyal	Climate Science and Technology	
Nikita Trivedi	Electronics and Communication Engineering	
M Naresh	Mechanical System Design	
Suryakant Kumar	Materials Science and Engineering	

Institute Silver Medal for topping in M.Sc. specializations:

Partha Sarathi Jena	Geology
Pijush Chakraborty	Chemistry
Priyanka Mishra	Mathematics
Smita Chakraborty	Physics

The other endowment medals won by the students are shown below:

Dinesh Memorial Award (Best B. Tech Thesis – Mechanical Engineering)	Akshay Ramachandran	
Tejaswi Memorial Award (Best B. Tech Thesis – Electrical Engineering)	Deepak Kaushik	
Prof. P. Rama Rao Award (Best Lady Graduate)	Harleen Hanspal	
Dr. K. Kasturirangan Award (Best Graduate)	Kamal Nayan Reddy Challa	
B. K. De Memorial Award (Most Innovative Project)	Vishwas Chandra Khan	

Other Activities:

The Institute observed and celebrated several events like the International Yoga Day, 9th Institute Day, 71st Independence Day, 154th meeting of All IIT Directors, Rashtriya Ekta Saptah, Vigilance Awareness Week 2016, Ishan Vikas Scheme, 68th Republic Day, E-Summit 2017, Matribhasa Diwas, International Women's Day, All IIT Librarians meet, National Science Day, 9th Foundation Day, , Yoga day, Teacher's day besides the regular national events and a large number of students, faculty and staff members participated in the events.

Acknowledgements:

This Institute and its entire activities could not have been be carried out well without the full participation and support of all stakeholders – our faculty, students and staff; agencies and industries sponsoring R&D and consultancy projects; professionals from other organizations and our alumni. The Institute is grateful to the Ministry of Human resource Development, Govt. of India for its continued and sustained encouragement and support.

Before I conclude, I congratulate all the graduating students, awardees and medal winners and wish all happiness, professional success and fulfillment in their lives.

Jai Hind!

Prof R. V. Raja Kumar

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