



उन्नत भारत अभियान UNNAT BHARAT ABHIYAN

शिक्षित भारत-स्वस्थ भारत- स्वच्छ भारत- स्वावलंबी भारत- संपन्न
भारत

Odisha Odyssey at IIT Bhubaneswar: Utkal Diwas Celebration Unveils a Tapestry of Tradition, Talent, and Tantalizing Flavors

On 31 March 2024, the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bhubaneswar came alive with the vibrant hues of Odisha's rich heritage and the tantalizing aromas of its traditional cuisine as it celebrated Utkal Diwas, the Foundation Day of the state. Orchestrated with flair by Team UBA, the event emerged as a spectacular showcase of the state's traditional handicrafts, culinary delights, and cultural performances.



Under the dynamic leadership of Dr. Seema Bahinipati (Coordinator, UBA IIT BBS) and Dr. Madhusmita Dash (Faculty Theme Leader for digital awareness and self-reliance) the event unfolded as a grand tapestry of Odisha's cultural tapestry. Their visionary approach and unwavering commitment played a pivotal role in weaving the event's success.

The event was graced by the participation of women and local artisans, who displayed their exquisite craftsmanship in traditional handicrafts and showcased the culinary treasures of Odisha. The community center was transformed into a vibrant tableau of Odia culture, adorned with typical Odia accents by the dedicated UBA volunteers, adding an authentic touch to the event's ambiance.



Culinary Delights: A Gastronomic Journey

The food stalls were a culinary paradise, offering an enticing array of traditional Odia dishes that tantalized the taste buds of the attendees. From Gopaljeeu's delectable Atta Kakara, Sooji Kakara, and Malpua to Gopabandhu Mahila Farmer Producer Company's nutritious Millet items and Chakuli Pitha, the event was a gastronomic odyssey through the flavors of Odisha.

The crowd was enamored with Zestfulblends' scrumptious Dahibara Aludum. This traditional dish, with its soft lentil dumplings soaked in spicy yogurt and served with a tangy tamarind chutney, offered a symphony of flavors, leaving a lasting impression on the attendees' palates.

Traditional Handicrafts: A Visual Extravaganza

The event was also a visual feast, showcasing the exquisite craftsmanship of Odisha through various stalls displaying traditional handicrafts. Pratisruti and Odisha Hast Tant presented intricate Pattachitra paintings, sarees, and home decors, while Sigmascott Pvt. Ltd. showcased Sabai Grass Products for Home Decor and Utilization. The hand-painted planters and wood boards by Smruti Design Lab were also a major hit among the attendees.

The Pattachitra paintings, with their intricate designs and vibrant colors, narrated mythological stories and local folklore, captivating the audience with their beauty and detail.



To recognize and celebrate the efforts and talents of the participants, prizes were distributed to the winners of the various categories. The winners included Odiani, Gopaljeeu SHG, and Pratisruti, who were honored for their exceptional contributions and dedication to preserving and promoting Odia culture.

The event was graced by the presence of many faculty members along with their families and students of IIT Bhubaneswar demonstrating their support and appreciation for the cultural celebration. The esteemed Director Prof. Shreepad Karmalkar of IIT Bhubaneswar accompanied by Mrs. Shruti Karmalkar also visited the event, acknowledging the efforts and talents showcased by the participants and Team UBA.

The success of the Utkal Diwas celebration was also attributed to the hard work and dedication of the student and staff volunteers, and many others who worked tirelessly behind the scenes to make the event a resounding success. Their commitment and enthusiasm played a crucial role in ensuring that the event ran smoothly and was enjoyed by all.



The Utkal Diwas celebration at IIT Bhubaneswar was not just an event but a grand celebration of Odisha's rich cultural heritage, traditional handicrafts, and delectable cuisine. Through this event, Team UBA successfully promoted and celebrated the cultural essence of Odisha, fostering a sense of pride and unity among the attendees. The participation of village women, local craftsmen, and the 14 teams added a unique charm to the event, making it a memorable experience for everyone involved.