

Public Access to University Libraries

The university's libraries are open to the public, offering free access to a comprehensive collection of books and publications, as well as paid access to specialized materials and research databases. These libraries serve as vibrant centers for intellectual exploration, supporting both the university community and the broader public in their pursuit of knowledge. Centurion also donates books to local schools and libraries, reinforcing its commitment to community literacy and educational outreach.



Fig. 1 shows public library access by students.



Fig. 2 shows the books shelf to be used by students and faculties.

1. Open Access Policy for Community Members

In 2024, the Central Library at Centurion University Bhubaneswar continued its *Open Access Policy*, enabling students, faculty, researchers, and local community members to freely use the library's vast collection of learning resources.

This initiative aims to democratize knowledge and strengthen the reading culture in Odisha's local communities. The library registered a total of 8,000 physical visits in 2024, including around 1,200 visits from non-university members who accessed the facility without charge.



Fig. 3 shows the reference section for use by students and faculties

2. Free and Paid Resource Access

The library offered a dual-access model:

- **Free Access:** Visitors could browse and read from a wide selection of books, journals, and newspapers within the library premises at no cost. A total of 1200 students visited the campus library and had access to it freely.



Fig. 4 shows the access to library resources.

- **Paid Access:** For specialized resources, such as certain research databases, archives, and premium journals, a nominal fee-based access was provided. The fee was Rs. 200 for the whole day. This ensured sustainability while still maximizing public benefit.

3. Community Book Donation Drives

Centurion University organized several book donation drives in 2024, where the library donated old and surplus books to local schools, colleges, and public libraries. Around 2 lakhs of books were donated to various libraries of schools and open book houses. This initiative supported literacy and resource enhancement in under-resourced educational institutions in and around Bhubaneswar.



Fig. 5 shows the book donation drive conducted by Centurion University.

4. Outreach and Literacy Programs

The library team conducted outreach programs, including reading sessions, library orientation workshops, and mobile library services for nearby villages and schools. Throughout the year 5 outreach programmes were conducted in the nearby locality which included reading sessions, explanation of books and authors and two times a mobile library was conducted in 2024. These programs were designed to foster a love for reading and introduce the community to the wealth of resources available at the university's library.



Fig. 6 shows the outreach programme conducted by Centurion University

5. Remote Access for Researchers

Recognizing the changing needs of scholars, the university expanded its remote access system for research materials. In 2024, approximately 300 PhD scholars and 120 external researchers were granted digital access to the university's e-resources, including e-books, digital journals, and research databases.

This initiative enhanced research inclusivity, particularly benefiting scholars from rural and affiliated institutions.



Fig. 7 shows access to paid resources by researchers.



Fig. 8 shows the initiatives under public access to library taken by Centurion University, Bhubanewar in 2024.

6. Academic Integrity Support

To promote academic honesty, the library continued to provide access to Turnitin, a leading plagiarism detection software, for students, researchers, and faculty. In 2024, we had around 700 users who had benefitted from Turnitin services. This resource was also made available to local educational institutions through collaborative agreements, supporting research ethics beyond the university. In 2024, external PhD supervised users around 100 students have accessed our services for plagiarism detection.



Fig. 9 shows one of the most important plagiarism detection software used by Centurion University to detect academic dishonesty

7. Inclusive Access for Differently-Abled

In 2024, the library enhanced its infrastructure to be more accessible for differently-abled users. This included ramps, tactile guides, and assistive reading technologies, ensuring that all community members could benefit from library resources. Separate lift facility was constructed for differently gifted students and scholars.



Fig. 9 shows the inclusion of differently abled students into the catena of Centurion University reach

Conclusion

Through these comprehensive schemes in 2024, Centurion University, Bhubaneswar, significantly strengthened public access to its library resources. These efforts not only advanced educational opportunities for the wider community but also reinforced the university's mission of inclusivity, knowledge sharing, and societal development.