



**Centurion  
UNIVERSITY**

*Shaping Lives...  
Empowering Communities...*



**11<sup>th</sup>**

# CONVOCATION CEREMONY

**2023** **DECEMBER**  
**9 | NINTH**

**REPORT OF THE  
VICE CHANCELLOR**

**CENTURION UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT  
ODISHA**

**(ESTD. VIDE ODISHA ACT 4 OF 2010 & u/s 2 (F) OF UGC ACT, 1956)**





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His Excellency, **Sri. Raghubar Das jee**, the Hon'ble Governor of Odisha and the Visitor of Centurion University of Technology and Management;

Hon'ble Justice Mr. CT. Ravikumar jee, Judge, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India

Dr. BVR. Mohan Reddy jee, Founder Chairman CYIENT, Former Chairman NASSCOM

Shri. Pushp Kumar Joshi jee, Chairman cum Managing Director, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd, Govt. of India

Distinguished Members of the Governing Board;

Members of the Academic Council, Board of Studies, Directors, Deans, Faculty and Staff of the University, Parents, Distinguished Guests, Representatives of Electronic and Print Media and most importantly our Graduating Students, Ladies and Gentlemen.

As Vice Chancellor, I extend a very warm welcome to you all to the 11th Convocation of the Centurion University of Technology and Management, Odisha.

On this most glorious and auspicious day, I would like to share briefly the trajectory of the University during the last year. At the outset, I would like to inform this august audience, that in the first round of NAAC, we received the highest grade of A and in the second round, we are accorded A+, which highlights our dedication to the pursuit of quality higher education. Further, I would like to affirm Centurion Universities commitment to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals 2030 and the National Education

Policy 2020. Centurion University serves students, mainly, from Odisha and neighbouring states like Jharkhand, Bihar, West Bengal and Andhra Pradesh through its six campuses located at Paralakhemundi, Bhubaneswar, Rayagada, Bolangir, Chhatrapur and Balasore (Gopalpur). We also have graduating students from African nations. Focused on tribal, under-privileged and rural areas, the aim is to empower students with quality education for their employability and self-reliance, higher studies and entrepreneurship, thereby contributing to reducing inequality in society.

The Centurion University has several social outreach enterprises under the umbrella brand, “Gram Tarang” to train economically weak and tribal students, to provide work integrated skill training and apprenticeship, enable financial inclusion, extract oils and oleoresins from various spices and provide cutting edge technology solutions. Presently, there is also a focus on industry relevant and future skills (as aligned with the Govt of India and Govt of Odisha's vision) such as Dassault tools, AWS, Unity, use of drones in spraying services and imaging, etc. The focus of the University is to create knowledge economy, employability and entrepreneurship through skill integrated higher education system and product-oriented outcome. The University's research program is facilitated through 24 active research centres, 11 Centers of Excellence and 30 Live Labs. The faculty published 811 articles in national and international journals, 252 books and book chapters, and 63 conference proceedings; further over 215 patents have been published. The Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship has promoted 52 incubatees and 19 start-ups which also figure on the MSME platform of the Government of Odisha. Centurion University is also a Centre of Excellence of Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, the only university in the country to have been thus honoured.

The degree, diploma and certificate courses of the University are designed to educate students about developing sustainable solutions to real life problems for a better future. The classroom teaching is augmented by the hands-on, experiential learning and relevant field work. At present, the University offers 84 Certificate, 26 Advanced Certificate, 30 Diploma courses, 35 under-graduate and 24 post-graduate and doctoral programs through different Schools. In addition, we have had two batches of Indigenous Australian students who have completed a six-month certificate program. Further, the University is approved by the Veterinary Council of India to start the Bachelor of Veterinary Science and Animal Husbandry. The University has also received approval from the Bar Council of India for the School of Law. It has received approval from Government of Odisha to offer BSc Nursing programme in Balasore, Rayagada and Paralakhemundi campuses.

The University works closely with local governments and communities, as most of its campuses are located in difficult geographies. It is empanelled with the Board of Revenue, Govt of Odisha for delivering a six-month certificate course on 'Advanced Cadestral Mapping and Digital Map Preparation' to improve the skills of Revenue Inspectors and Amins. Centurion University is also a Remote Pilot Training Organisation (RPTO) and the first in Eastern India to be approved by the DGCA to train drone pilots. Further, it also in the final stage of manufacturing drones for agriculture spraying and survey services. In working towards advancing the Sustainable Development Goals 2030, the University tries to ensure the sustainability of biodiversity of the campuses through regular surveys of flora and fauna.

This year the University received approval of the Institutional Ethics Committee (IEC) for clinical trials and approval from the Committee for Control and Supervision of Experiments on

Animals (CCSEA) for preclinical studies. Two faculty members of the School of Pharmacy and Life Sciences received a collaborative project grant of Rs.1.2 crores from the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS).

The School of Management actively provides training and consulting to various organizations, including delivering a Post Graduate Diploma in Financial Management to Odisha Finance Service (OFS) probationers, training to banking professionals from Banking, Finance and Insurance Nepal (BFIN), and Skill Training programs for Telengana Minorities Residential Educational Institutions Society (TMREIS), and students of DAV schools, among others. The School of Management has conducted several international exchange programs with Victoria University, and Deakin University, Australia.

We believe in inclusiveness of population from all sectors. Thus, the under privileged students are supported through various scholarships. Few new courses are developed to train and empower the disadvantaged communities from remote tribal areas, which in turn facilitate the basic health care to the population living in remote areas. An MoU has been signed with Mindtree Foundation to train local youth from underserved areas and as a result, the first batch of Phlebotomy Technicians will soon qualify. Training to faculty members by Essilor in lens grinding and cutting, led to comprehensive eye testing and lens dispensing in remote locations of Odisha covering over 5,000 beneficiaries. 100 families with Health cards have been assisted with free teleconsultation and subsidised diagnostic testing. At present, the University has 115 active MoUs which are regularly reviewed.

Krishi Mela in collaboration with Krishi Jagaran has become an annual affair attended by over 5000 farmers. Rural Haats are

organised on a regular basis. Farmers' training is organized to educate them about new, affordable and sustainable pathways of agriculture and aquaculture, which leads to self-reliance and economic upliftment of farmers. The University has collaborated with NGOs, Corporates and Government for the Odisha Vikas Conclave 2036.

The Centurion University creates awareness, shapes and sensitizes the young minds for a responsible behavior, inclusiveness and innovation. Thus, students undertake various social responsibility activities. The students conducted several awareness campaigns in the form of street plays, flash mobs, marches and displays on various social issues. Community visits to Childrens homes, Old age homes, Blind schools, Shelters for the mentally ill, etc are regularly organised such that students learn respect and empathy. Further, the University organised three mega blood donation drives, where 593 donors voluntarily donated blood. Other significant days observed are the World Radiology Day, World Fisheries day, Engineers' Day, GIS Day, Vigilance Awareness Week, Forensic Science Day, National Sports Day, Teachers' Day, National Unity Day and International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction among many others.

This 11th convocation celebrates the graduation of total 2752 students including 36 PhD awards, 755 post graduates, 1482 under graduates and 479 Diploma. 49 students are recipients of merit certificates and 20 of Gold medals (1 of who is from ITI). This year, two new medals have been instituted, first, the Visitors Gold Medal for the overall best graduate and second, a commemorative gold medal in the name of Late Sri Dhiren Patnaik for the best female graduate. The Pro-Vost of the University has further announced 10 research awards for students.

The University celebrates the achievements of students, where students get every opportunity to showcase live projects on cutting edge technologies like AR/VR, IoT, Multispectral/Hyperspectral imaging, VLSI, Renewable energy, EV, BIM technology and reconstruction of UNESCO world heritage sites as 3D models/ digital restoration. The University hosted an AICTE sponsored Hackathon of 25 teams from various institutions across India.

The university is very conscious about educating women to address gender equality, fulfil the national agenda of “Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao” and to cultivate the future generation through educated women for sustainable future. This is illustrated by the total female students graduating as a percentage of total students, which is approximately 39%, however 94% of the female students have passed as a percentage of total female students, whereas it is 82% in the case of male students. Of the total gold medallists, 60% are women. Women, at 61%, have fared better as toppers in various disciplines. We continue to provide scholarships to female students pursuing programs where they are under-represented. Overall, our efforts are being rewarded and hopefully we shall be able to ensure equality in near future.

The placements are the most awaited results by the students and the university. This year, a total of 203 companies offered 2358 jobs to our students. Of this, 1524 were unique placement offers. It is with great joy and pride that I would like to inform the audience that 9 students were selected as Assistant Fisheries Officers by Odisha Public Service Commission, 13 students have qualified for the JRF/ CAT examinations, 11 of the 16 seats for the Masters programme at OUAT were secured by our students through the entrance exam and 28 students have been further selected for higher studies to other Government agriculture universities. As part of the Future Nexus

agenda, the University conducted three HR conclaves in Bangalore, Hyderabad and Vishakapatnam. Several of our faculty have also qualified for positions in Universities and Govt colleges through a competitive process conducted by OPSC.

Here, I take the opportunity to convey message to the graduating students. You all are the torch bearers of the reputation, morals and ethics of our university and your family. You are privileged to gain higher education with hands on experience and latest technologies leading to decent work, which brings economic upliftment and provides sustainability to your family, but there are many children who are deprived of education and coupled provisions. It is my appeal to you all that wherever you are, extend your services to the under-privileged and disadvantaged children and women. Maintain the tradition of Centurion University to reach out to the deprived, bring gratification to your life and pride for your family. But also maintain the tradition of bringing disruption to all that you do, strive for the best. Make the future sustainable through your efforts, howsoever small it may be. Every drop counts for a sustainable society.

With this I add an endnote that in this fast-changing world with challenges, Centurion University is committed to converting adversaries to opportunities and bring fresh thoughts, perspectives and responsibility towards society for a sustainable future.

Congratulations and best wishes to the graduates and thank you all for your support.

**Dr. Supriya Pattanayak**  
**Vice Chancellor**

## **Dr. Supriya Pattanayak**

Vice Chancellor, Centurion University. Ph.D in Social Sciences, RMIT University, VIC, Australia, MPhil Psychiatric Social Work, National Institute of Mental Health and NeuroSciences, Bangalore, India, MA Social Work, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, India, BA, Mysore University, Mysore, India.

Dr. Pattanayak comes with over 25 years of experience both in the development sector and academia like Department for International Development (DFID) India; Deakin University, VIC, Australia, Policy and Strategic Planning Unit, Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Odisha; Center for Youth and Social Development, Odisha; RMIT University, Australia; MahilaSamakhya, Ministry of Human Resources Development, Government of India; Voluntary Health Association (Delhi); United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, New Delhi and Institute of Applied Language Sciences, Mysore.

