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UNIVERSITY**

*Shaping Lives...
Empowering Communities!*

Report on Van Mahotsav Celebration

The Department of Botany, School of Applied Sciences, Centurion University of Technology and Management, Odisha organized a vibrant and impactful **Van Mahotsav Celebration** on 2nd July, 2025 at the Centurion University, Bhubaneswar campus to promote awareness about the importance of trees and conservation of nature. The event witnessed enthusiastic participation from students, faculty members, and was graced by the esteemed presence of the Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, a distinguished Chief Guest, and an invited Resource Person.



The programme commenced in the morning at 10.00 am with a welcome address by the Head of the Department of Botany, Dr. Rukmini Mishra who emphasized the historical and ecological significance of Van Mahotsav – India’s annual tree-planting festival. She spoke about how the celebration aims to instill environmental consciousness among youth and encourage collective responsibility toward nature conservation.

The inaugural session began with the address by the Hon’ble Vice Chancellor, Chief Guest, and other dignitaries.

The Vice Chancellor, Dr. Supriya Pattanayak in her address, appreciated the initiative taken by the University, department and emphasized the need for academic institutions to take the lead in creating green campuses and nurturing eco-conscious citizens. She encouraged students to develop a lifelong bond with nature and adopt sustainable practices in their daily lives. She gave emphasis on the plantation of trees in this modern era of development. She gave importance to sustainable development. She encouraged the academic community to integrate environmental responsibility into everyday practices and curricula. “Sustainability is not a choice; it is a necessity,” she stated. Her address inspired all present to view tree plantation not as an event but as a commitment to planetary health.



In his inaugural address, Director , Dr. Susanta Kumar Biswal highlighted the multifaceted utility of plants in sustaining life on Earth. He spoke about how plants are not just essential for oxygen production and food supply, but also play a crucial role in climate regulation, water conservation, biodiversity protection, and medicinal value.

He stressed that the simple act of planting a tree could contribute immensely to combating global warming and air pollution, and foster a healthier ecosystem for future generations. The Director encouraged students and staff to become green ambassadors, actively participating in plantation drives and adopting sustainable lifestyles.

Dr. Gagan Kumar Panigarhi , Associate Dean, delivered a thoughtful speech connecting the celebration of Van Mahotsav with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). She emphasized that the plantation initiative directly contributes to several SDGs, including: SDG 13 – Climate Action, SDG 15 – Life on Land, SDG 3 – Good Health and Well-being, SDG 6 – Clean Water and Sanitation and SDG 11 – Sustainable Cities and Communities.



The Chief Guest, Dr. Nabin Kumar Dhal, Chief Scientist, Institute of Mineral and Material Technology (IMMT) Bhubaneswar, a noted environmentalist who always advocates for ecological restoration, delivered an inspiring keynote address. He spoke on the current environmental challenges, deforestation, and the critical role that trees play in maintaining biodiversity, reducing carbon emissions, and supporting livelihoods. His words served as a call to action for all attendees to take active steps in protecting green cover in urban and rural landscapes. He gave an elaborative talk about the therapeutic uses of the plant. Which is well appreciated by students.



Following the keynote, the invited Resource Person, Prof. Kunja Buhari Satpthy, Emeritus Professor, Centurion University of Technology and Management, conducted a short interactive session on “Urban Forestry and Community Participation.” He engaged the students with real-world examples of successful afforestation campaigns and emphasized how individual and community participation can drive environmental transformation. The session also included a demonstration on proper tree-planting techniques and how to care for saplings after plantation



The event saw the active participation of students, who not only planted over 30 saplings in and around the campus but also prepared posters, slogans, and short speeches related to environmental conservation. A few students shared their experiences and expressed their thoughts on the urgent need to reverse environmental degradation.

Faculty members from various departments joined hands in the plantation drive and played a significant role in organizing and supervising the activities. Their collaborative efforts, along with

the support of the non-teaching staff and university gardeners, ensured the smooth and successful conduct of the event.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by the event coordinator, Dr.Kalpita Bhatta, Gratitude was extended to the Vice Chancellor, Chief Guest, Resource Person, faculty, students, and support staff for their active involvement and commitment toward making the Van Mahotsav celebration a grand success.

This celebration served not only as an educational experience but also as a humble contribution to building a greener and healthier environment. It reaffirmed the university's dedication to sustainability and environmental stewardship

As part of the Van Mahotsav celebrations, a Plantation Drive was organized on the campus of Centurion University of Technology and Management, Odisha on 2nd July,2025.The drive aimed to promote environmental awareness and contribute to ecological sustainability by increasing green cover in and around the institution.



The event began with the ceremonial planting of saplings by the Director, Dean, faculty members, and student volunteers. A variety of native and environment-friendly plant species—including medicinal and shade-giving trees—were selected for planting, keeping in mind local climatic and soil conditions.

More than 30 saplings were planted during the drive in designated green zones of the campus. Active participation from students, volunteers, and staff members made the drive a great success. Each participant pledged to take responsibility for nurturing the planted saplings to ensure their healthy growth.

This initiative not only supports the objectives of Van Mahotsav, but also aligns with broader environmental goals such as mitigating climate change, improving air quality, conserving biodiversity, and fostering a culture of sustainability.

The Plantation Drive concluded with a strong message of collective responsibility and the importance of individual action in creating a greener and healthier planet.



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M.Sc Zoology (2nd year)

DT- 02/07/25

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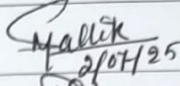
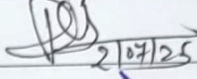
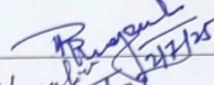
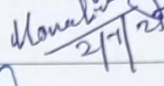
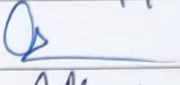
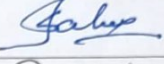
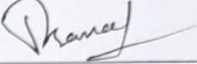
CENTURION UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY AND MANAGEMENT,
ODISHA

ATTENDANCE OF THE FULL TIME SCHOLARS

Date: 02/07/2025

Sl. No.	Name	Designation	Signature
1	Sanjoy Majumder	Ph.D. Scholar (Biotechnology)	 02/07/25
2	Purbasha Prityadarshini	PhD scholar (zoology)	 2-7-25
3	Arjita Arumika Sahu	PhD scholar (zoology)	 Arjita
4	Somya Cephalika	PhD Scholar (zoology)	 Somya
5	Rutupurna Das	PhD Scholar (Zoology)	 Rutupurna
6	Snigdha Bilerua	PhD scholar (Botany)	 02/07/2025
7	Sameer Jana	PhD. Scholar (Botany)	 02/07/25
8	Chandana Saha Torapatra	Ph.D. Scholar (Botany)	 2.7.25
9	Sabali Kuma Paikrany	PhD scholar	 02.07.25
10	Vixa Sahu	PhD Scholar (Biotech.)	 02/07/25
11	Debasmita Dash	PhD scholar (Botany)	 02/07/25

PhD cell coordinator

Sl. No.	Name	Designation	Signature
12	Subhasmita Mallik	Ph.D Scholar (Botany)	 2/07/25
13	Pratiksha Mohanty	Ph.D Scholar (Botany)	 2/07/25
14	Banaja Panigrahi	Ph.D. Scholar (Biotech)	 2/07/25
15	Monalisa Gini	Ph.D Botany	 2/7/25
16	Chirasmita Bose	PhD Scholar (SOBT)	
17	Aswini Nayak	Phd Scholar (SOBT)	A. Nayak
18	Sushant Jyoti Sahoo	Phd scholar (Botany)	
19	Ipita P. Samal	PhD Scholar (Botany)	
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