S

tuated in the magical and magnificent valley of the undivided Koraput district, the Central University of Odisha crops its head up, under the Central Universities Act-2009 (No.25 dated 20th March 2009) of Government of India during UGC XI plan to address the concern of the Nation on the principle of "Equity and Access" to qualify higher education and this Higher Education Institute gradually allures the people of different pockets of the Indian subcontinent towards its charismatic performance at academic level as well as administrative level.

Since its inception the University is trying hard to make the university an excellent platform for 'inclusive education', to instill value education so that the learners can serve the nation as well as the world, to provide an interdisciplinary teaching-learning environment, and to promote the significance of indigenous and culture studies, aiming to achieve successfully with the progress of time.

The University endeavours to promote quality education for all and 'disseminate inclusive education' to reach the un-reached. It advocates the symbiosis of the indigenous and the global scene, create a niche of its own so as to promote the principles of national unity and integrity, social justice, secularism, democratic values, cultural pluralism, international understanding and scientific approach to solve problems of the society.

For achieving the above goals, the University is committed to:

i) foster the diversified society and culture of India and establish such departments or institutions along with need-based disciplines of study as may be required for the overall societal development;

ii) endeavour to facilitate students and teachers from all over India and abroad to join the University and participate in its academic programmes;

iii) promote and facilitate students and teachers in understanding the social needs of the country and prepare them for fulfilling such needs;

iv) make provisions for integrated courses in Humanities, Science and Technology, Computer and Information Technology, Legal Studies, Biodiversity and Medical Sciences related educational programmes of the University;

v) establish such departments or institutions as may be necessary for the study of languages and literature, culture and life of the people, bio-diversity in the region, with a view to inculcating in the student’s broader perspectives of national and international understanding about the neglected areas of the study;

vi) take appropriate steps for promoting inter-disciplinary studies in the University.

In the light of the above, the approach of the University has been evolving policies and programmes which will create for the Central University of Odisha a niche of its own. The University has been striving to attract students from all parts of the country so that it stands out as a national University. The University also encourages the enrolment of students outside India, especially from the developing countries in adequate numbers.

The basic academic units of the University have come up with multi-disciplinary schools made up of different Departments. A School has been visualized as a group of enrolled scholars along with the faculty concerned in the dissemination of knowledge, employing the required
methodology for understanding problem areas of the subject-matter.

The “Objectives of the University” as envisaged in the Act are “to disseminate and advance knowledge by providing instructional and research facilities in such branches of learning as it may deem fit; to make special provisions for integrated courses in humanities, social sciences, science and technology in its educational programmes; to take appropriate measures for promoting innovations in teaching–learning process and inter-disciplinary studies and research; to educate and train manpower for the development of the country; to establish linkages with industries for the promotion of science and technology; and to pay special attention to the improvement of the social and economic conditions and welfare of the people, their intellectual, academic and cultural development.”

The missions of the University always inspire the participants encircled within its ambit to guide the students on the path of intellectual journey by providing quality education, to develop the students as creative, culturally sensible and thinking persons, to create a consciousness for sustainability and concern for environment, to encourage the spirit of enquiry, to provide scope for individual research, to motivate the young minds to be lifetime learners, and to initiate a holistic approach having bond between teaching and research. After all, as the guardian spirit it instructs the people to move on the path of righteousness.

The stakeholders of the institute have strong conviction in the mighty wings of hour that flies swiftly. Along with them, now I am determined to traverse the untrodden thoughts for the betterment of the people of the region and the humanity at large simultaneously. The University is enhancing its human resources and infrastructural facilities. With the eye to launch new disciplines in Science and Technology it will soon be visible to the world. A library will be exclusively devoted to the tribal languages, literature and cultural studies. A ‘Language Bhavan’ will be visible to this soothing campus shortly.

Central University of Odisha, having set its vision and mission as its primary objective, seems to be moving forward in a positive direction and growing extremely fast. The Vice-Chancellor, Central University of Odisha called on Her Excellency The President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan on 17 January 2023 and proposed to open a world class tribal library, museum and tribal research institute in Koraput. There was a positive discussion with Her Excellency the President of India in this regard and Her Excellency appreciated the academic initiative of the Vice-Chancellor for the upliftment of the tribal community. From the discussion it transpires that the Tribal Centre will be set up in the University and it will help in the field of conservation and research on the language, culture and knowledge of the tribal people in the region and across the country.

I feel proud to announce that the last few months of 2023 are crowded with many eventful academic and cultural programmes organized by our students and staff members. Five international conferences were conducted in five different subjects (Hindi, Sanskrit, English, Odia; and jointly Economics and Journalism & Mass Communication) along with one important national seminar in Education. It is praiseworthy to mention that invited speakers representing the countries like Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Canada, China, England, Finland, Germany, Italy, Indonesia, Mauritius, Nepal, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Thailand, U.K., U.S.A. and Vietnam delivered the plenary lectures and also took active part in the academic programmes of the University.

On the one hand the admission process for Post Graduate departments for the academic year 2023 was initiated while on the other hand the curriculum designing of the departments like Agricultural Science, Animal Husbandry and Dairy Technology, Forest Management and Logistic Support Chain Management started.

A welcome ceremony of Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Hon’ble Union Minister of Education was held in the university campus on 1st April 2023. On this occasion he led the foundation stone of the University Playground, inaugurated the Work Station, Language Lab and visited Central Library. At the same time, he suggested to write texts on ‘Kui’ and ‘Desia’ languages. The University Grants Commission set up the Bhima Bhoi Chair at the Central University of Odisha, Koraput.

On 21st and 22nd of April 2023, Bharatiya Paramparik Kreeda Mahotsav was organized in collaboration with Kreeda Bharti in the university campus. Many sports persons in their respective sports teams participated from Assam, West Bengal and Odisha. The university was fortunate enough to have the Hon’ble Union Minister of State for Education, Dr. Subhas Sarkar to inaugurate the event. Many eminent personalities from the filed of sports participated and talked about the growth and progress of the traditional art and culture of the nation. The most adorable moment for the university was to receive the letter of appreciation form the Honorable Prime Minister,
Shri Narendra Modi in this respect. During this time, the Chancellor of the Central University of Odisha, Prof. P.V. Krishna Bhatta arrived. He met and interacted with all the teachers, staff members and students of the university, guided and blessed them.

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It is indeed pleasure for me to mention that the University is moving forward with great energy, determination and vision in the first step of the twenty-first century. I am sure that CUO will significantly contribute to the world of knowledge.

This special issue of the Journal Science and Culture reflects the type of research work carried out by our faculty members and I am very happy to announce that this issue is a symbol of celebration of the 15th Foundation Day of the Central University of Odisha, Koraput (29th August, 2023).

Professor (Dr.) Chakradhar Tripathi
Vice-Chancellor
Central University of Odisha
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Prof. (Dr.) Chakradhar Tripathi

A distinguished educationist, Prof. Chakradhar Tripathi assumed office as the Vice-Chancellor of Central University of Odisha on 26 September 2022 at the University campus, Sunabeda. Her Excellency, Smt. Droupadi Murmu, the President of India, in the capacity as the Visitor has appointed Prof. Chakradhar Tripathi as the Vice-Chancellor of the Central University of Odisha, Koraput (CUO) as per Statute 2(1) of the Central Universities Act, 2009 for a term of (5) five years from the date of his joining or till he attains the age of seventy years, whichever is earlier, as per the communiqué received from the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India on 13 September 2022. Prof. Tripathi is the fourth regular Vice-Chancellor of the University.

Prior to joining the CUO, Prof. Tripathi was the Senior Professor, Department of Hindi, Visva-Bharati, Santiniketan, West Bengal. His area of Specialization is Medieval and Modern Hindi Poetry. Prof. Tripathi has thirty three years of impressive academic as well as administrative experiences in various capacities including Director, Physical Education, Sports, National Services and Student Welfare; Coordinator, International Collaboration (following NEP-2020); Head, Department of Hindi; Chairman, Board of Studies in Hindi; Director (Honorary), Centre for Hindi Teaching, Tagore Institute of Art & Education; President, Visva-Bharati, Shikshik Sangh.

He served as a nominee of the President of India in various Statutory Committees, Advisory Committees and Selection Committees including Vice-Chancellor of national Higher Educational Institutions and Universities. He is the recipient of many awards including Silver Medal Awards from Hindi Vidyapeeth, Deoghar, Bihar in Sahitya Bhushaw Exam; Hindi Sevi Samman award from Visva-Mukti, KIIT, Bhubaneswar ; Bhasha-SetuSamman award from Mahavidya, B. Deoghar; Shikshak Samman award from Gahmar Welfare Society, Gahmar, U.P.; Surya Antarbharati Bhasha Samman award from Surya Sansthan, Noida, Delhi; Hindi Sevi Samman award from Bihar Rashtra Bhasha Parishad, Patna; Sri Ganesh Ballabhjee Rathi Memorial Award from Sahitya Mandal, Shrīnathdvara, Rajasthan and Pandit Vidyashankar Pandey Sahitya Vibhushan Samman, 2020 award from Munishwandutta P.G. College, Pratapgarh, U.P. He is a prestigious member of Raja Rammohan Roy Library Foundation, Kolkata, Ministry of Culture, Govt. of India.

Born in 1960 in the village Jagannathpur, Basantia, Mareigaon under Hatadihi block of Kendujhar district, Odisha, renowned scholar, Prof. Tripathi did his M.A. & Ph.D. in Hindi from VisvaBharati and Graduation from Utkal University. He has published over six books including Kabir Ki Bhakti, Siyaram Tiwari: Vyaktitwa EvamKritisva, Nayee Kavitaka Pratipadya, Chintamani Sanchayan, Krishan Chander Ki Pratinidhi Kahaniyan, Atmanirbhar Bharat (Bengali Version). He has also four edited books and Five translated books. His research papers are published in reputed national and international Journals. He has supervised more than 17 scholars for award of Ph.D. and have completed few research projects.

Prof. Tripathi is known to have taken the initiative to advocate the ideologies of Utkalmani Gopabandhu Das. The translation of ‘Gopabandhu Rachnabali’(Total–08 volumes) is being published under the guidance and Chief editorship of Prof. Tripathi by NBT.

Recently, Prof. Chakradhar Tripathi was felicitated and awarded the prestigious Acharya Shivpujan Sahay Smriti Samman for his valuable contribution towards the promotion of the Hindi Language and Literature by His Excellency the Governor of Bihar, Shri Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar on the occasion of the 42nd Convention of Bihar Hindi Sahitya Sammelan held at Patna on 6th May 2023 in the presence of the Chairman of the Conference, Dr. Anil Sulabh and other dignitaries.

Note by the Editor-in-Chief, Science and Culture: This issue has been sponsored by the Central University of Odisha, Koraput.