

Dawn Of A New Era in Technical Education in Orissa

First time in Orissa, a group of likeminded eminent academicians and Industry experts from reputed US establishments teamed themselves and institutionalized an Engineering College called BIT (Bhubaneswar Institute of Technology), which got AICTE approval in August, 2008. Since then, the NRIs and the management of BIT have worked diligently to make a humble beginning this year (2009) by admitting 240 aspiring students. BIT will make 60 seats available in Orissa in each of its branches namely, Computer Science, Electrical and Electronics, Electronics and Communications Engineering and IT.

When analyzed, why this group of people have now institutionalized a model Engineering College in Bhubaneswar, it is found that - For the last 12 years, they have in their individual capacities tried to improve the quality of technical education in Orissa by educating the faculties and entrepreneurs. However, while the number of Engineering Colleges have grown by 2000%, the quality of graduates has not improved noticeably.

US Academicians in BIT Team are Prof. RN Mahapatra from Texas A&M University, Prof. LN Bhuyan and Prof. P Mahapatra from Universities of California at Riverside and Davis respectively where as the US and Indian Industry Experts in BIT Team come with experience from reputed organizations such as Microsoft, Cisco, BellLabs, Hess Corp., Target, United Health, ICICI, NEC and Motorola, Wipro, DRDO. Additionally, BIT has built a team of seven (7) Adjunct and Visiting Faculties from US, Canada, Singapore and IITs.

One of the goals of BIT is to bootstrap the quality academic programs in the state/country that has been suffering from ill posed education cycle. BIT's mission is to leverage US Faculty experience to integrate innovative teaching methods with faculty research towards building strong academic programs. Using "Holistic Education" approach BIT will establish an academic model in the framework of BPUT and prepare the graduates for global market.

BIT's innovative teaching philosophy will enhance the learning impact on students by the "Learning through Teaching and Knowledge sharing" methods. BIT culture is to focus on grooming students and faculties for long term success in their careers. We believe in "grooming, not just teaching" as per the BIT COO, Ashok Mahapatra. A holistic grooming platform will be created by facilitating each student to achieve equilibrium of body and mind and develop reasonable proficiency in one

foreign language. Each student will be given a degree of mentoring by the top BIT management for effective grooming. BIT is committed to provide placement at least to the top 5 graduates in US for Higher Studies and Research. Eminent academicians from BIT are steadfast to provide Ph.D guidance to several faculties. Top 10% students will avail the COO's personal mentoring program on Corporate Leadership and entrepreneurship development. Students will regularly interact with the US professors, Visiting Faculties from around the globe and Industry Leaders from US and India. Students can also avail the "Higher Education Workshops" under the guidance of US professors, helping them to succeed in GRE, TOEFL, GMAT, GATE, CAT and MAT. Students will have the opportunity to participate in "Earn when you Learn" and "Learn while you teach" programs. Special sessions will be conducted for students from 5th semester upwards on Interview process for MNCs and keys to impactful resume building. Additionally, students will sharpen their skills to succeed in competitive global job market under the guidance from the Industry professionals in BIT Team of promoters. BIT has fully equipped Audio Visual Class Rooms, Laboratories, Workshops, Communication Lab, Library with books and journal from India and abroad, Internet and placement cell. Transportation and Hostel facilities for boys and girls separately are available with Food Court Facility in Campus.

Promoters and management believe that BIT can be the next frontier model platform for technical education and research. BIT will set up research "Center of Excellence" with BPUT and train faculties from peer colleges in emerging and specialized areas. Technology will be leveraged for better efficacy of all processes, which will be re-engineered if required for efficiency and transparency.

BIT team is concerned about the lack of good information and understanding in the public domain about the quality of technical education and its ramifications on the graduates. We urge the parents, teachers, students and industry professional to help the situation and enable the aspiring students to make the right choice for their future. BIT is committed to building one future at a time leveraging its rich experience in Academics and Industry right here in Orissa.

