



CENTRE FOR DISTANCE AND ONLINE EDUCATION Maharaja Sriram Chandra Bhanja Deo University

REPORT OF THE FIRST ALUMNI MEET

Date: 28 February 2026

Venue: Main Campus, MSCB University

1. Introduction

The First Alumni Meet of the Centre for Distance and Online Education (CDOE), Maharaja Sriram Chandra Bhanja Deo University (MSCBU) was organized on 28 February 2026 at the Main Campus of the University. The programme was initiated to reconnect former learners with their alma mater, strengthen institutional–alumni relations, and create opportunities for alumni to contribute to the academic and professional development of current learners.

CDOE, formerly known as the Directorate of Distance & Continuing Education, was established in 2003 and had provided educational opportunities to approximately 15,000 learners through its various programmes by the academic year 2019–20.

The initiative for organizing the Alumni Meet was taken by Prof. S. K. Nayak, Director, CDOE. Alumni from diverse academic and professional backgrounds were contacted and invited to participate. Although some alumni could not attend due to professional and personal commitments, the participating alumni actively contributed to the programme.

2. Objectives

The Alumni Meet aimed to:

- Strengthen the relationship between CDOE and its former learners.
- Provide a platform for interaction among alumni, faculty members, and current learners.
- Understand alumni experiences and the impact of their academic programmes.
- Obtain feedback on curriculum, SLMs, learner support, counselling, examinations, and digital learning facilities.
- Identify areas for improvement in academic and learner-support services.
- Encourage alumni participation in mentoring, career guidance, knowledge sharing, and institutional activities.
- Develop a sustainable alumni network for CDOE.

3. Proceedings and Interaction

The programme commenced with a welcome address by Prof. S. K. Nayak, Director, CDOE, who highlighted the importance of distance and online education in providing flexible and accessible opportunities for higher education.

An interactive session was subsequently held with the participating alumni and faculty members. Alumni shared their experiences of pursuing higher education through the distance mode while managing employment, family responsibilities, and other commitments. They also discussed the knowledge and skills acquired through their programmes and their contribution to professional and personal development.

The discussion focused on the curriculum, Self-Learning Materials, online resources, academic counselling, learner support, communication with faculty members, examination facilities, digital learning, and career guidance. An open discussion enabled alumni to provide suggestions for strengthening the academic and support mechanisms of the Centre.

4. Feedback and Suggestions

The alumni appreciated the flexibility and accessibility offered by CDOE and emphasized the importance of distance education for learners balancing higher education with employment and other responsibilities.

The major suggestions included:

1. Strengthening digital and online learning resources.
2. Providing more frequent academic counselling and interactive sessions.
3. Ensuring timely communication of academic and examination-related information.
4. Increasing e-learning materials and recorded lectures.
5. Providing greater opportunities for career guidance and mentoring.
6. Creating regular opportunities for interaction among alumni, faculty, and current learners.
7. Organizing Alumni Meets and professional networking activities regularly.
8. Involving alumni in mentoring and knowledge-sharing initiatives.

5. Decisions and Outcomes

The Alumni Meet resulted in several important decisions for strengthening alumni engagement. It was decided that an Alumni Meet would be organized annually during the first week of December, beginning in December 2026. Office bearers were also decided to facilitate coordination and continued alumni activities.

It was further decided that alumni would contribute to the academic and professional development of current learners through mentoring, career guidance, professional interaction, knowledge sharing, and guidance regarding future academic and career prospects.

The feedback received during the programme will also serve as an input for improving academic delivery, learner support, digital resources, communication, counselling, and career-oriented services.

6. Action Points

Based on the discussions and feedback, CDOE proposes to:

- Strengthen digital learning facilities and e-learning resources.
- Improve academic counselling and learner-support services.
- Ensure timely dissemination of academic and examination-related information.
- Expand career guidance and mentoring opportunities.
- Facilitate regular alumni–faculty–student interaction.
- Organize annual Alumni Meets and professional networking activities.
- Encourage alumni participation in mentoring, knowledge sharing, and institutional initiatives.

7. Conclusion

The First Alumni Meet was a significant step towards strengthening the continuing relationship between CDOE and its former learners. The programme provided an opportunity to exchange experiences, obtain constructive feedback, and identify areas for academic and institutional improvement. The decision to conduct the Alumni Meet annually, establish office bearers, and involve alumni in mentoring current learners has laid the foundation for a more active and sustainable alumni network. The continued association of alumni is expected to support current learners and contribute to the academic and developmental activities of CDOE.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. Nabin Kumar Sahu, Assistant Professor, Master of Library and Information Science, CDOE, MSCB University, who expressed sincere gratitude to the alumni, faculty members, staff, and organizers for their valuable participation and contribution to the successful conduct of the programme.

