



PM-USHA Sponsored



Two-Day Skill Development Programme

On

**Mastering Inclusive ODL: Policy
to Practice**

27th – 28th October, 2025

Programme Report

Organised by,

**Centre for Distance and Online Education (CDOE)
Maharaja Sriram Chandra Bhanja Deo University
Sriram Chandra Vihar, Takatpur, Baripada -757003**

PROGRAMME REPORT: PM-USHA SPONSORED TWO-DAY SKILL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

Event Name: Mastering Inclusive ODL: From Policy to Practice

Organized By: Centre for Distance and Online Education (CDOE), Maharaja Sriram Chandra Bhanja Deo (MSCB) University, Baripada

Dates: October 27–28, 2025

Venue: MSCB University Campus, Baripada

I. Introduction

The Centre for Distance and Online Education at Maharaja Sriram Chandra Bhanja Deo University successfully conducted a two-day Skill Development Programme entitled "Mastering Inclusive ODL: Policy to Practice." Sponsored by the Pradhan Mantri Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (PM-USHA), the programme aimed to equip faculty and administrators with the necessary skills to implement inclusive policies in Open and Distance Learning (ODL). The event witnessed the participation of distinguished academicians, policymakers, and learners, fostering a dialogue on accessibility and digital pedagogy.

II. Day 1: Inaugural Ceremony (October 27, 2025)

The Inaugural Ceremony of the PM-USHA Sponsored Two-Day Skill Development Programme commenced at 10:30 AM. Ms. Abhipsa Pattanayak, Assistant Professor, Department of English, officiated the day, guiding the proceedings with the reception of the dignitaries on the dais.

The event began with a symbolic gesture of sustainability, where student volunteers presented saplings to the guests, followed by the ceremonial lighting of the lamp. The solemnity of the occasion was further marked by the rendition of the University Anthem by the students of the Department of Education.

Mrs. Laxmipriya Mohanty, Organising Secretary, delivered the Theme Introduction. She elucidated the academic vision behind the programme, emphasizing the transition from policy formulation to practical empowerment in inclusive education. Subsequently, the dignitaries formally inaugurated the Programme Souvenir, a compendium of scholarly thoughts prepared for the occasion.

Dignitaries on the Dais:

- Chief Patron: Professor Pramoda Kumar Satapathy, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Maharaja Sriram Chandra Bhanja Deo University.

- Patron: Professor Kamal Lochan Barik, Chairman, Post Graduate Council, MSCB University.
- Keynote Speaker: Professor Niradhar Dey, Professor of Education, School of Education, Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU), New Delhi.
- Guest of Honour: Professor Harihar Sarangi, Retired Head of the Department, School of Education, Gangadhar Meher University.
- Convenor: Professor Sukanta Kumar Nayak, Director, Centre for Distance and Online Education, MSCB University.
- Co-ordinator (PM-USHA): Professor Indrajit Naik, MSCB University.
- Co-Convenor: Dr. Pratap Kumar Jena, Deputy Director, CDOE and Assistant Professor, Department of Economics.
- Organising Secretary: Mrs. Laxmipriya Mohanty, Assistant Professor, CDOE.

The session proceeded with addresses from the administrative and academic leadership:

- Convenor Address: Professor Sukanta Kumar Nayak delivered the welcome address, setting the context for the two-day deliberations.
- PM-USHA Address: Professor Indrajit Naik, Co-ordinator, PM-USHA, presented the administrative vision and the scope of the initiative under the central scheme.
- Co-Convenor Address: Dr. Pratap Kumar Jena shared his perspectives on the programme's relevance to current educational economics.
- Guest of Honour Address: Professor Harihar Sarangi offered insights drawn from his extensive career in teacher education.
- Organising Secretary Address: Mrs. Laxmipriya Mohanty shared a brief idea about the theme of the programme.

Following the initial addresses, a Felicitation Ceremony was conducted to honour the distinguished guests. This was followed by the Keynote Address delivered by Professor Niradhar Dey. He spoke extensively on "Mastering Inclusive ODL: Policy to Practice," guiding the audience through the journey of implementing inclusive education policies in real-world ODL scenarios.

The session concluded with the presidential remarks. Professor Kamal Lochan Barik, Chairman, P.G. Council, delivered the Patron's Address, followed by the Presidential Address by the Chief Patron, Professor Pramoda Kumar Satapathy, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, who highlighted the university's role in fostering innovation and accessibility.

The Inaugural Ceremony formally concluded with a Vote of Thanks proposed by Mr. Snehasis Mohanty, Joint Organising Secretary, followed by a group photograph of the dignitaries, faculty, and participants.

III. Day 1: Technical Sessions

The afternoon sessions focused on the foundational and practical aspects of inclusive education.

- Lecture 1: Dr. Sujit Kumar Acharya, Assistant Professor, Directorate of Distance and Continuing Education (DDCE), Utkal University.

Topic: Foundations of Inclusive Learning. Dr. Acharya discussed the sociological barriers to education and strategies to ensure equitable access for marginalized communities.

- Lecture 2: Professor Niradhar Dey, School of Education, IGNOU, New Delhi.

Topic: Digital Pedagogy and Policy Frameworks. He elaborated on the integration of digital tools to bridge the transactional distance between learners and institutions.

- Lecture 3: Professor Harihar Sarangi, Retired Head, School of Education, Gangadhar Meher University.

Topic: Pedagogical Challenges in ODL. Professor Sarangi addressed the specific classroom management techniques required for distance learners.

- Lecture 4: Professor Bimal Charan Nanda, Senior Academician and Educationist.

Topic: Emerging Trends and Future Pathways in Inclusive Open and Distance Learning. He elaborated the current and future pathways to promote inclusive ODL.

IV. Day 2: Technical Sessions and Proceedings (October 28, 2025)

The second day's proceedings were hosted by Ms. Pritilagna Santoshi Mahakud, Assistant Professor, Department of English. The focus shifted towards quality assurance, technology, and evaluation.

- Lecture 5: Professor Bimal Charan Nanda, Senior Academician and Educationist.

Topic: Quality Assurance in Distance Education. Professor Nanda emphasized the regulatory standards and accreditation metrics essential for maintaining the credibility of ODL programmes.

- Lecture 6: Dr. Pratima Pradhan, Assistant Professor, Department of Education, Fakir Mohan University.

Topic: Assessment Strategies in ODL. Dr. Pradhan discussed the shift from traditional testing to continuous comprehensive evaluation in online environments.

- Lecture 7: Professor Niradhar Dey, School of Education, IGNOU, New Delhi.

Topic: Digital Platforms and Learning Management Systems for Inclusive ODL such as SWAYAM and SWAYAMPRAKASH and others. He explained briefly about all the digital platforms facilitate ODL.

- Lecture 8: Professor Sanjay Kumar Dey, Principal, UG College of Teacher Education (CTE), Baripada.

Topic: Technology for Inclusive Outreach. The session explored the use of Learning Management Systems (LMS) and AI to support diverse learning needs.

- Lecture 9: Professor Harihar Sarangi, Retired Head, School of Education, Gangadhar Meher University.

Topic: ODL for Learners with Disabilities and Special Needs and Supporting First-Generation, Adult, and Lifelong Learners. He explained How ODL promotes inclusivity by emphasizing the facilities for all categories of marginalised learners.

V. Valedictory Session

The programme concluded with a Valedictory Session to honour the contributors and participants.

- Chief Guest (Valedictory): Dr. Pratima Pradhan, Assistant Professor, Fakir Mohan University.
- Presiding Officers: Professor Sukanta Kumar Nayak (Convenor) and Dr. Pratap Kumar Jena (Co-Convenor).
- Vote of Thanks: Mrs. Laxmipriya Mohanty (Organising Secretary), Assistant Professor, CDOE, MSCB University.

The session included the felicitation of faculty members from various distance learning study centers, acknowledging their dedicated service. Certificates of participation were distributed to all attendees by the Chief Guest and the Convenors. The event formally ended with a Vote of Thanks proposed by Mrs. Laxmipriya Mohanty, Organising Secretary, followed by the National Anthem.

VI. Photo Gallery



INNAGURAL CEREMONY



INNAGURATION OF SOUVENIER



ADDRESS BY THE COORDINATOR PM-USHA



TECHNICAL SESSION OF Prof. B. Nanda



TECHNICAL SESSION OF Prof. N. Dey



TECHNICAL SESSION OF Dr. P. Pradhan



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