

2nd special CONVOCAATION

10th July, 2015



National Institute of Technology
Rourkela

Welcome address

Hon'ble Chief Guest, Prof. R. V. Rajakumar Director, IIT Bhubaneswar, Hon'ble Chairperson Madam Vasanta Ramaswamy, Distinguished recipients of the honorary degree Dr. B. Panda and Professor Manindra Agarwal, members of the BOG and the Senate, colleagues, students, alumni and retired faculty, members of the press and media, ladies and gentlemen.

Today is a unique day in the life of our beloved Institute, NIT Rourkela. On the occasion of the Second Special Convocation, it is our special privilege to host two distinguished individuals who have made a difference in the lives of more people than any of us present here has done in our lives. We are grateful to Dr. Bansidhar Panda and Prof. Manindra Agarwal not only for lending their names to our institute but also for joining us here today.

I welcome you, sirs to the Second Special Convocation of NIT Rourkela. The institute conferred the honorary degrees on Dr. Bansidhar Panda and Prof. Manindra Agrawal in its 12th convocation held on 17th January 2015 at NIT Campus Rourkela. Because of some unique circumstances they, in spite of their personal desires to receive the degree in person, could not join us in the function. We are grateful to you sirs, for taking the trouble of being with us here today.

I also take pleasure in inviting our Chief Guest, Prof. R. V. Rajakumar, Director, IIT, Bhubaneswar. As two of the leading technology institutes of our home state, NIT Rourkela and IIT Bhubaneswar share a joint responsibility, that of contributing to the economic and social prosperity of the state through introduction of technology, enhancement of academic outreach Government and municipal authorities, industry and education. Working together, our two institutes can offer to the nation an example of academics led prosperity of the people.

It is my singular pleasure to extend a warm welcome to Madam Vasantha Ramaswamy, Hon'ble Chairperson of the Board of Governors along with members of the Board and Senate and the NIT faculty. Madam, it is your leadership and guidance that has made NIT Rourkela a true institution of national importance, making a difference in the academic lives of thousands of faculty and students in the NIT system. I welcome you to share with us this moment of pride and joy in bestowing the honorary degrees of Doctor of Science on two of the most distinguished individuals of our country.

I take this opportunity of sharing with the audience that the Government of Odisha has been gracious to grant our institute this plot of land measuring about 4000 square metres. It was the personal initiative of our beloved Chief Minister, Shri Naveen Patnaik ji. Sir, we all appreciate your support and promise to serve our home state with our brains to more that justify your kindness. Because of strong preoccupation, Sri Patnaik could not join us in person; but we feel his presence all the time.

The convocation brochure presents on its front cover an elevation of the extension centre building to come on this site. Designed by M/s. InFORM Architects of Bangalore, we expect it not only to be a landmark building of Bhubaneswar for its sheer beauty, but also to serve as a nerve centre of "scholarship, innovation and entrepreneurship". On behalf of NIT Rourkela and all its future functionaries, I welcome all present and your colleagues to participate in academic and social events taking place in the centre in future.

I welcome all present to the Second Special Convocation of NIT Rourkela.

Jai Hind.

Sunil Kr Sarangi



Prof. Sunil Kr Sarangi, FNAE

Director

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Message from Chief Guest

My heartiest congratulations and compliments to the National Institute of Technology (NIT), Rourkela on the eve of its Special Convocation to be held at its extended campus at the temple city of Bhubaneswar on 10th July 2015. It is heartening to note that on this august occasion, Doctor of Science, (Honoris Causa) is going to be conferred upon Padma Shri Dr. Manindra Agrawal, an eminent professor who is known for his very significant contribution to the field of Mathematical Science and Technology and Dr. Bansidhar Panda, a renowned research scientist, who became an Industrialist of International repute as the Founder of Indian Metal & Ferro Alloys Limited. It is a great pleasure for me to join the occasion and the felicitation.

It has been a pleasant observation of mine seeing NIT, Rourkela making important strides, and coming up significantly in raising its standards in education, research and academic culture and emerging as a premier institution known for quality of education in the country. The efforts undertaken by Prof. S K Sarangi and his team at NIT Rourkela over the last decade in his endeavor are highly commendable. I wish NIT Rourkela, further successes in its pursuits of bringing technological and scientific independence to the country and hope to see this Institute of higher learning attaining greater heights in the years to come.

With best wishes,



Prof. R.V. Raja Kumar
Director
IIT Bhubaneswar

R V Raja Kumar

Message from Chairperson, BOC



We on behalf of NIT, Rourkela are honoured to present the Doctor of Science (Honoris Causa) to Dr. B. Panda, an eminent Industrialist of Odisha and Padma Shri Professor Manindra Agrawal, an eminent Professor of Computer Science of IIT, Kanpur. Their contribution to the society will be always remembered by all of us.

Mrs. Vasantha Ramaswamy
Founder Director,
Aprameya Associates, Pune

Chairperson
Board of Governors, NIT
Rourkela



Dr. Bansidhar Panda

Founder Chairman

Indian Metal & Ferro Alloys Limited
Bhubaneswar

Dr. Bansidhar Panda, an eminent scientist of international repute, is the executive chairman of IMFA group. Dr. Panda after completing his studies from Banaras Hindu University, Harvard and Michigan Technological University, held senior position in US steel corporation, Guest Keen and Nettlefolds of England and Phillips Limited of Holland. He wound up his prestigious assignments abroad and returned to India in 1960s to pioneer the production of ferroalloys and silicon metal. Starting from Scratch in Therubali, Dist- Rayagada, today a well developed township equipped with all modern facilities is a lasting tribute to his achievement.



Soon after his return to India, Dr. Panda was nominated by the Development Wing of India as a member of delegation to Europe. In 1961, he joined the Industrial Development Corporation of Odisha Ltd. (IDCOL) as advisor and board member and introduced among other projects the state owned Ferro Chrome Plant bringing in foreign collaboration from Norway and Sweden.

Dr. Panda has been involved in various scientific, industrial and government bodies in his long and illustrious career. Until recently, he was a Director on the boards of Air India and HAL, a member of the Odisha State Planning Commission, the Board of Scientific and Industrial research, Director of the Governing Board of Xaviers Institute of Management, Bhubaneswar and Management Development Institute. Since 1997, he has been co-opted as a member of Board of Governors of IIM, Kolkata and IIT, Kharagpur. Dr. Panda was chairman, Board of Governors of NIT, Rourkela from 2002-2006 and a member of the NIT Council at centre since September 2002. He is also associated with the State Council of Science, Technology & Environment and many other corporate bodies for scientific and industrial development.

He has also received the degree of Doctor of Literature (Honoris Causa) from Utkal University, Bhubaneswar in 2012. Dr. Panda has taken keen interest in promoting the rich cultural heritage of Odisha through active participation in the social and charitable activities of the Indian Metals Public Charitable Trust (IMPACT). His contribution to Odisha far exceeds than that of promoting IMFA Group. His keen interest to see a vibrant Odisha by making full utilization of its vast mineral and other natural resources has sparked a dream in many young Odias and given them a striking example and will to succeed.

Although Dr. Panda shuns any publicity, the nation in recognition of his services to humanity in general and deprived section of the society in particular, has given him a place in the National Archives for Posterity in 2004.

NIT, Rourkela is proud to confer the degree of D.Sc. (Honoris Causa) on Dr. Bansidhar Panda .

Dr. Manindra Agrawal

N. Rama Rao Chair Professor
Department of Computer Science and Engineering
Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur

Prof. Manindra Agrawal, the N. Rama Rao chair professor of Department of Computer Science and Engineering of IIT, Kanpur, was born in Allahabad. He joined IIT Kanpur for B Tech in Computer Science and Engineering. Prof. Agrawal subsequently obtained Ph.D. degree for his thesis on Complexity Theory in 1991 also from IIT Kanpur. He then did a three-year stint at the Chennai Mathematical Institute in Madras before bagging the prestigious Humboldt fellowship at the University of Ulm in Germany. He returned to IIT Kanpur as a member of the faculty in the Department of Computer Science and Engineering in 1996.



Prof. Manindra Agrawal is known as one of the foremost researchers in Complexity Theory. He has also significantly contributed to Computational Number Theory and Cryptography, His work on the p -isomorphism conjecture has rejuvenated the field of complexity theory, and the strongest current result in this field is due to him. His outstanding contribution on polynomial time algorithm for primality testing has solved one of the most outstanding open problems of Mathematics and Computer Science - as prime numbers play a pivotal role in all the areas of Mathematics and Computer Science. The result is now considered as the biggest advancement in a decade in computational number theory. What has astounded the scientific community is the elegance of the solution - the algorithm is only thirteen lines long, and its proof of correctness takes less than three pages. This discovery has bought in immense prestige to India, and it will certainly provide the necessary courage and impetus to the young Indian researchers to set really challenging goals, rather than work incrementally at paradigms set by the research programmes of abroad. For this work Dr. Agrawal was awarded the Clay Research Award in October, 2002. He has designed and implemented a symmetric-key algorithm Trinetra and built and productionized a crypto system for the Indian Navy.

Dr Manindra Agarwal has been bestowed with several awards and honours. He is a recipient of the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar award in Mathematical Sciences, first Infosys prize for Mathematics, G. D. Birla Award for Scientific Research, TWAS Prize in Mathematics, P. C. Mahalanobis Birth Centenary Award, Humboldt Prize and H. K. Firodia Award. He has been honored with Padma Shri in 2013.

NIT, Rourkela is proud to confer the degree of D.Sc. (Honoris Causa) on Prof. Manindra Agrawal .



The Alumni

Alumni constitute an important constituent of an institution of higher learning. It is through them that an institute reaches out to the public. They serve as brand ambassadors who spread the message of their alma mater. Their effort brings in new students, new faculty and staff, and new projects. The prosperity and good name of an institute strongly depends on the goodwill of its alumni.

NIT Rourkela, as a matter of basic philosophy, recognizes the potential role of its alumni in shaping the future of the institute. It is through them that the institute hopes to be able to convince the world that NIT Rourkela has truly transformed from a predominantly undergraduate college to a fully fledged technical university. It is through their efforts that the institute expects to convince industry executives and entrepreneurs that NIT Rourkela can provide solutions to many of their technical problems and can help them secure high positions under global competition



Alumni position as on June 2015

Recipients of D.Sc. (Honoris Causa)

1. Padma Vibhushan Dr. E. Sreedharan
2. Padma Shri Dr. Srikumar Banerjee
3. Dr. Bansidhar Panda
4. Padma Shri Prof. Manindra Agrawal

Recipients of Distinguished Alumnus Awards

- Padma Shri N. R. Mohanty, [B.Sc. (Engg.), 1965]
 Er Sukhendu Vikash Mishra, [B.Sc. (Engg.), 1968]
 Prof. Damodar Acharya, [B.Sc. (Engg.), 1970]
 Dr. Laxmi Narayan Bhuyan, [B. Sc. (Engg.), 1972]
 Sri Chandra Prakash Gurnani, [B. Sc. (Engg.), 1981]
 Dr Surya Narayan Mohapatra, [B. Sc. (Engg.), 1971]
 Prof. L M Pattnaik, [B. Sc. (Engg.), 1969]
 Sri Vir Vikram Vaid, [B. Sc. (Engg.), 1972]
 Prof. Deba Kumar Tripathy, [B.Sc. (Engg.), 1968]
 Shri Sandip Das, [B.Sc. (Engg.), 1977]
 Shri Madhusudan Padhi, [B.Sc. (Engg.), 1984]
 Shri Rabindra Nath Nayak, [B. Sc. (Engg), 1977]
 Dr. G. J. Prasad, [B. Sc. (Engg), 1970]
 Shri Venkata Narasimham Peri, [MCA, 1991]
 Shri Rajesh Vashist, [B. Sc. (Engg), 1980]
 Shri Sashi Sekhar Mohanty, [B. Sc. (Engg), 1980]
 Shri Gopikant Ghosh, [B. Sc. (Engg), 1969]
 Prof. Prabhakar Singh, [B. Sc. (Engg), 1973]
 Shri Pramod Kumar Jain, [B. Sc. (Engg), 1974]

Degree	No of recipients
D.Sc.	04 (Honorary)
Ph.D.	195
M.Tech. (R)	145
M.Tech.	2969
MBA	67
M.Sc.	1468
Int. M.Sc.	09
MA	25
MCA	702
B.Tech.	14145





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