

2023 Ed



Newsletter



GANGADHAR MEHER UNIVERSITY
AMRUTA VIHAR, SAMBALPUR



From the Vice-Chancellor's Desk



Gangadhar Meher University, named after the famous poet of the region, has emerged into a leading institution of higher education in western Odisha. With nascent beginning as a university in 2015 and UGC recognition as 'A' level accredited institution, it also has secured credible rank in NIRF and Times Higher Education Ratings. The research profiles of the faculty members have found a secure footing in international research databases including PUBLONS, Research Gate, Web of Science, Scopus Index and Academia etc. The university has also achieved a distinction in the academic year 2023 by sanctioning SEED Fund to fifty-eight (58) faculty members for minor research projects. In addition, faculty members have also been sanctioned fifteen (15) number of projects funded by ICSSR, ICHR and the OSHEC,

The University has set itself on a fast track by rapidly transforming its physical and technological infrastructure. The HRMS system and E-office are implemented bringing about efficiency in file movement and administrative accountability; further the university has also implemented SAMARTH modules for better delivery system. The goal is complete automation. It has twenty-three (23) regular schools and seven (07) self-financing programs spread over thirty-four acres of carpet area in the first campus. A newly constructed auditorium, a utility centre providing the basic amenities, a sprawling new campus of over hundred acres, a refurbished playground, and a new administrative building, renovations of Professors quarters, construction of new quarters for Vice Chancellor and Registrar, new building at Basantpur campus add to the assets of G.M. University.

With the introduction of new courses, the university is able to establish new linkages with other universities through MoUs and related initiatives. The Bhima Bhoi Chair established by the University in the year 2019 is the only research chair in Odisha. It has been extended till 2025. The funded Centre for Advanced Studies in Gerontology and Geriatrics is working towards solving issues related to the elderly population of this region. GM University has started reaching out to one of its important stakeholders through its distinguished alumni with their involvement at multiple levels such as mentoring students, generating corpus funds, career counselling, supporting new and innovative programs and having annual alumni meets.

Like the swift-flowing River Mahanadi, the University and its authorities are moving in a planned manner towards creation of an ecosystem in teaching and learning and achieve excellence in the field of higher education. The university witnessed the 3rd Convocation Ceremony on 12th April, 2023. Hon'ble Chancellor, Prof. Ganeshi Lal graced the occasion and enlightened the students, academicians, and other dignitaries with his captivating address.





The University organized the **3rd Convocation Ceremony** to confer degrees on students who have successfully completed various UG, PG & Ph. D. programs. His Excellency Prof. Ganeshi Lal, Hon'ble Governor of Odisha & Chancellor, G. M. University, graced the occasion. Prof. Suranjan Das, Vice-Chancellor, Jadavpur University, was the Guest of Honour.



GM University hosted a grand welcome ceremony in honour of the **Hocky Men's World Cup** (13th -29th January 2023). The cup was celebrated with a series of congratulatory messages, music, dance and festivity. The event was organized under the able leadership of Prof. N. Nagaraju, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor and Smt. Jugaleswari Dash, Registrar.



Odisha Centre for Geriatrics and Gerontology (OCGG)

Odisha Centre for Geriatrics and Gerontology (OCGG) continues to play a pivotal role in promoting the well-being of elderly individuals through its diverse extension and outreach activities, awareness programs, and academic events. These efforts not only connect with communities but also contribute to achieving the centre's objectives of addressing health, social, and cultural aspects of aging. Moving forward, the centre aims to scale its activities and expand its reach to ensure sustained support and awareness for older adults.



The centre has actively been engaged in various outreach and extension activities to connect with elderly individuals at the grassroots level. These activities aim to foster emotional, social, and health-related well-being for older adults, particularly those residing in old age homes and villages. Key initiatives include:

1. Community Engagement with Elderly Persons:
2. Annual Celebrations of International Days:
3. Geriatric Counselling and Health Check-Up Camps:
4. Awareness Programs on Cultural Heritage:

To achieve its core goals and provide a platform for knowledge-sharing and skill-building, the centre has conducted numerous



workshops, webinars, and conferences. Experts from across the country, including specialists from outside Odisha, have been invited to guide and provide insights into various focus areas. Notable events conducted in 2023 include:

1. Open Panel at World Anthropology Congress:
Organized by OCGG, this panel was held at KIIS from August 9–14, 2023, and fostered discussions on aging, culture, and anthropology.
2. Socio-Academic Film Exhibition and Interactive Workshop on Positive Ageing:
Held on 7th January 2023, this event showcased films addressing positive aging while engaging participants in meaningful discussions about social inclusion and healthy aging.

Bhima Bhoi Research Chair:



The Research Chair conducted a Three-day National Seminar on the topic "Mahima Dharma and Bhima Bhoi in our Time: Texts and Contexts" on 01.03.2023 to 03.03.2023. About thirty research papers were presented by resource persons and research scholars. About three hundred scholars including teachers and students of the university participated in the event



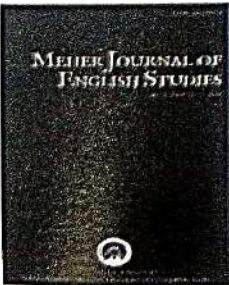
A National Seminar was hosted by Gangadhar Meher University, Sambalpur in Collaboration with Central Tribal University of Andhra Pradesh on 2-3 January 2024.






Inauguration of Gangadhar Meher University Auditorium by Hon'ble Chief Minister, Sj. Naveen Pattnaik on 14th July 2023

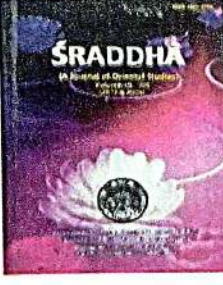
G. M. University has taken several efforts for the promotion of start-up and innovation activity. Particularly, it has emphasized on the development of commercializable prototype products in very cost-effective manner. This initiative aims to promote **high yield organic mushroom farming** throughout the year using low-cost innovative systems/instruments. Under the guidance of **Prof. S. K. Das, School of Physics**, this initiative aims at High Yield Organic Oyster Mushroom production through climate-controlled agriculture (CCA).

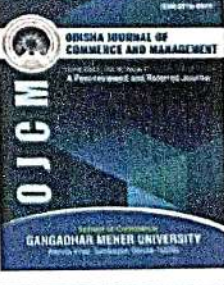
"Meher Journal of English Studies"
published by School of English



"Sabdaganga"
published by School of Odia



"Sradha"
(A Journal of Oriental Studies)
published by School of Sanskrit



"Odisha Journal of Commerce and Management"
published by School of Commerce

National Seminars, Conferences, Workshops:

DAE-BRNS Outreach Theme meeting on "Societal Applications of DAE Technologies and R&D Opportunities In Nuclear Sciences (RDNS-2023)" was jointly organized by DAE, BARC & GM University in association with Indian Association of Nuclear Chemists and Allied Scientists (IANCAS) from 23rd-25th November 2023. Eminent scientists all over India were invited to the meeting.



Dr. P. K. Mohapatra (RC&IG, BARC- Chair), Dr. Raghunath Acharya (RCD, BARC), Dr. S. M. Yusuf, Director, Physics Group, Dr. T. K. Ghanty, Director, Bio-Sciences Group, Dr. S. Adhikari, Associate Director, KMG, BARC, Dr. K. K. Nanda, Director, IOP, UGCDAE CSR at BARC Mumbai, Dr. A. Dash, RRF-DAE, Shri Daniel Babu P, SO/H (Head Coordination & Information Management Section), Dr. Kuber (BARC), Dr. Bitan Ghosh (BARC), were the main speakers of this

event. In this event Dr. Kuber (BARC) and C. Bhainsa, BARC had given contributions towards Outreach posters. Dr. B. Mallick, IOP had demonstrated the IANCAS Practical using radiation detectors.

Dr. P. K. Mohapatra (RC & IG, BARC-Chair), Dr. Raghunath Acharya (RCD, BARC), Dr. S. A. Ansari, (RCD, BARC & Secretary, IANCAS), Dr. Kuber Bhainsa (NA & BTD, BARC), Dr. Uma Charan Pati (Deputy Registrar, GMU), Prof. Susanta Kumar Das (Chairman PG Council & Head School of Physics,



GMU), Dr. Alekha K. Sutar (Head, School of Chemistry, GMU) were in the organizing committee of this event. Dr. A. K. Mohanty, Chairman, AEC & Secretary, DAE Shri Vivek Bhasin, Director, BARC, Prof. Ashok K. Das, Vice-Chairman, OSHEC, Odisha, Prof. N. Nagaraju, Vice-Chancellor, GMU were the patrons of this event. Prof. Asoka K. Das (Vice Chairman, Odisha State Higher Education Council) and Padmashree Dr. A. P. Das were the Chief Guests of this event in the inaugural session and valedictory session respectively.



School of English organized the third Prof. Srimat Sahu Memorial Lecture on 24th February 2023. Prof. Harish Trivedi, Former Professor, University of Delhi delivered the lecture on “Literary Globality: Indian Literature and World Literature”.



School of English organized the second Prof. Prafulla Pati Memorial Lecture on 11th September 2023. Prof. D. Venkat Rao, Professor, English & Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad delivered the lecture on “Cultures of Memory”.



The School of History organized an ICHR-sponsored National Seminar on “Exploring Unsung Chapters of Freedom Struggle of Odisha” from 7th to 8th October 2023. The seminar featured 140 delegates and presentations on unsung freedom fighters. Dr. Jitendra Naryan Dash delivered the keynote address.



The School of History hosted a regional session of the Odisha History Congress on 8th October 2023. The session included a keynote address by Prof. Sanjaya Acharya and discussions on recent developments in Odishan Archaeology. Around 150 delegates participated.

An extra-mural talk was organized by IQAC, GMU in collaboration with School of Education on 15th November 2023. The talk was delivered by Prof. Susmit Pani on the topic “How to be a Good Teacher”.



One-day National Seminar was organized by School of Philosophy on World Philosophy Day-2023 on “Critical Thinking & Philosophizing” on 2nd March 2024. Prof. Rajkishore Nath, IIT, Bombay and Dr. Samir Diabagh, BBMC, Agartala were the Resource Persons for the Seminar.



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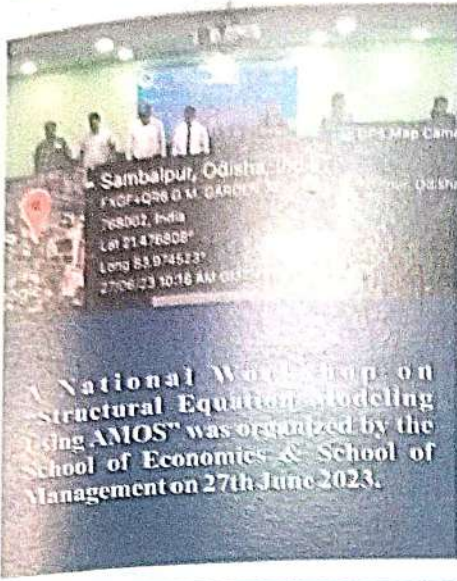


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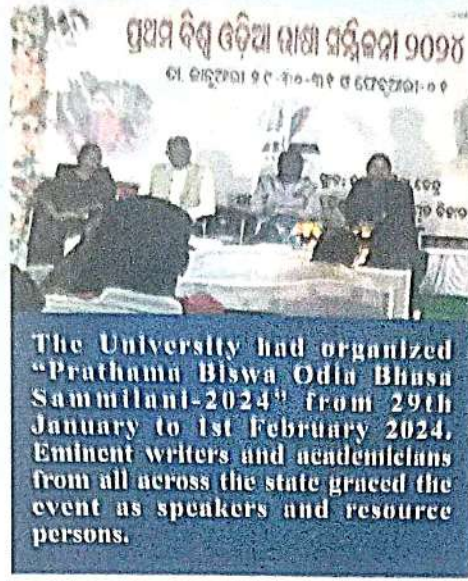
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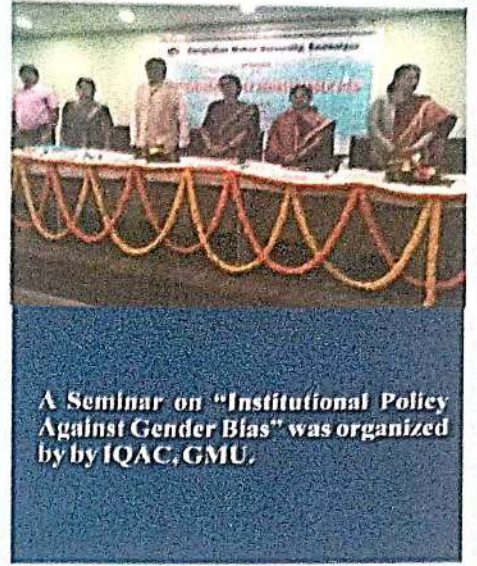
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A National Workshop on "Structural Equation Modelling Using AMOS" was organized by the School of Economics & School of Management on 27th June 2023.



The University had organized "Prathama Biswa Odia Bhasa Sammilani-2024" from 29th January to 1st February 2024. Eminent writers and academicians from all across the state graced the event as speakers and resource persons.



A Seminar on "Institutional Policy Against Gender Bias" was organized by IQAC, GMU.

Extension and Outreach Activities:



Covered an outreach program of Institute of Physics, Bhubaneswar (A unit of DAE, Govt. of India.) at GMU University, Sambalpur on 25 July 2023. Prof. S. K Das

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The Sambalpur, 30 July 2023

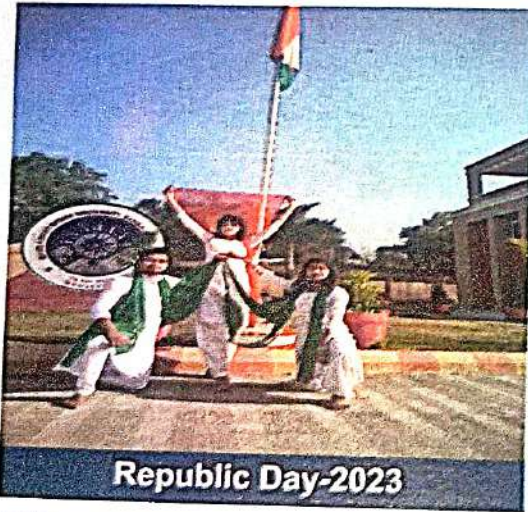


Alumni Activities:



Celebration of Important Days:

With the objective of training youth for nation-building, the university consistently encourages the celebration of international and national days and weeks. This initiative creates feelings of solidarity and brotherhood among the student-faculty community of the university.



Republic Day-2023



Independence Day-2023



Gangadhar Meher Jayanti



International Women's Day-2023



August Kranti Diwas-2023



Guru Purnima-2023



Sambalpuri Din-2023



Pakhala Dibas-2023



Sanskrit Diwas-2023



National Science Day-2023



As an attempt to acknowledge the rich regional tradition of Western Odisha, the University celebrated “Nuakhai Bhetghat”, one of the most important festivals of the region on 1st October 2023.

Co-curricular Activities: Literary & Cultural Events:

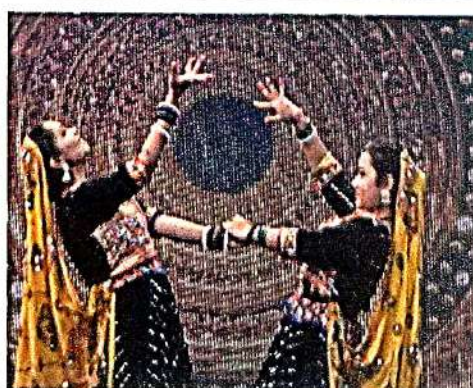
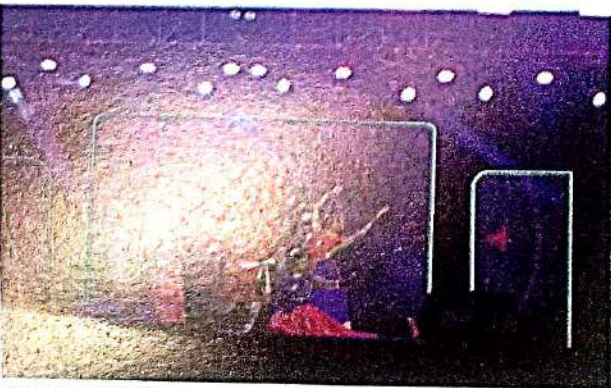
As part of its mission to enable the holistic development of young students, GMU encourages students to participate in literary and cultural events. A series of competitions and events spanning creative, performing and fine arts are regularly organized in the university to bring out the inherent talent of students. The actively functioning Literary and Cultural Committee of the university regularly organizes Debate, Essay-writing, Poetry recitation, Painting and Drawing, Drama, Classical/Folk/Contemporary Dance, Classical Vocal/ Instrumental Music and Mono-action competitions to groom students into sensible citizens who appreciate the rich cultural legacy of the state and nation. Practice sessions involving faculty, non-teaching staff and students envision a vibrant campus.



Intra-University Literary and Cultural Competitions - 2023



Integrated Youth Development Programme (IYDP), under Nua-O



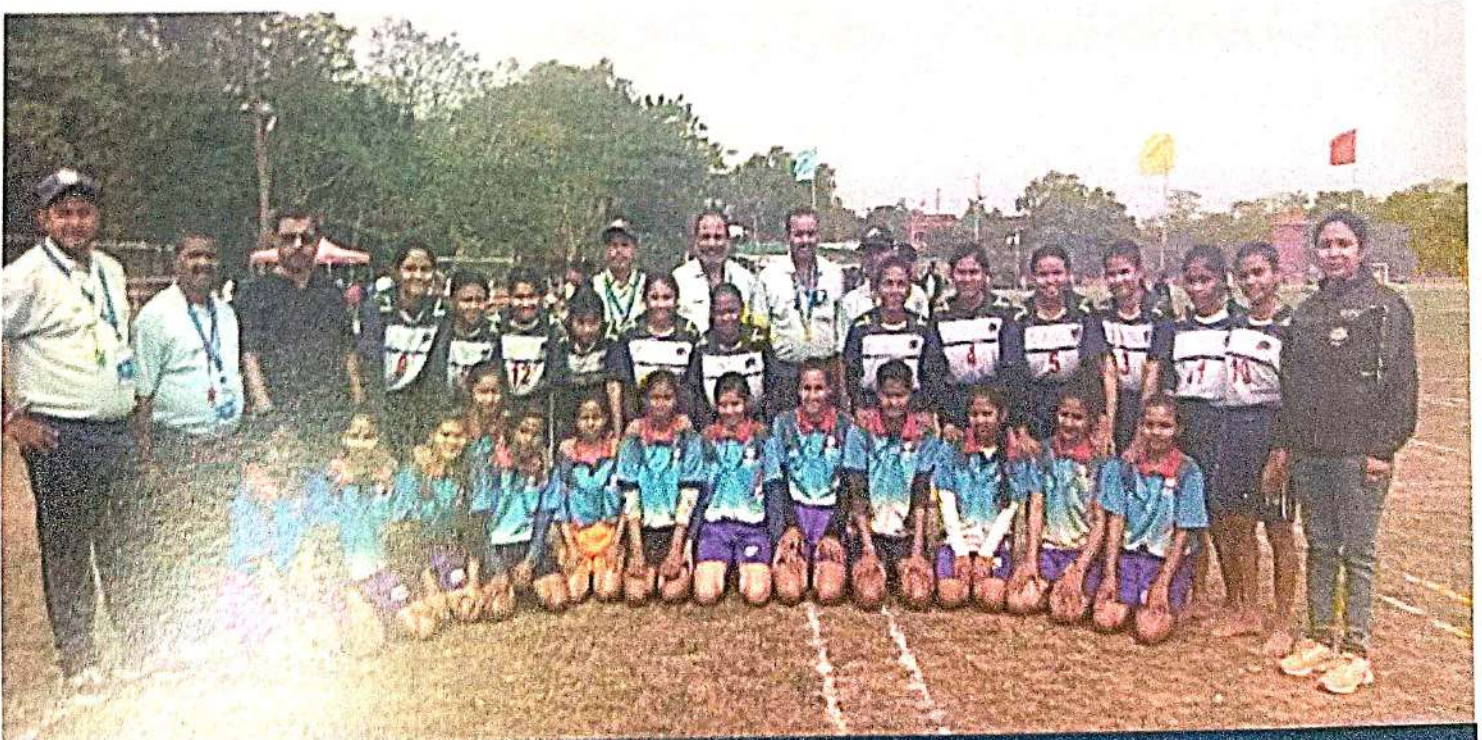
Annual Cultural Programme "Cult Fest 2K24"

Co-curricular Activities: Sports



Annual Athletic Meet-2023

As an effort to prioritize the physical fitness and well-being, GMU encourages students to participate in sports activities and athletics. The university has also engaged two full-time Physical Education Officers for the training of students in athletic/sports activities. Regular activities like Cricket, Football, Basketball, Kabaddi, Kho-kho, Chess, Carrom, among others are being conducted regularly in the university.



Participation In OIUC Kho-Kho Women Tournament organized by Ravenshaw University from 6th-12th February 2023

Students' Achievements:



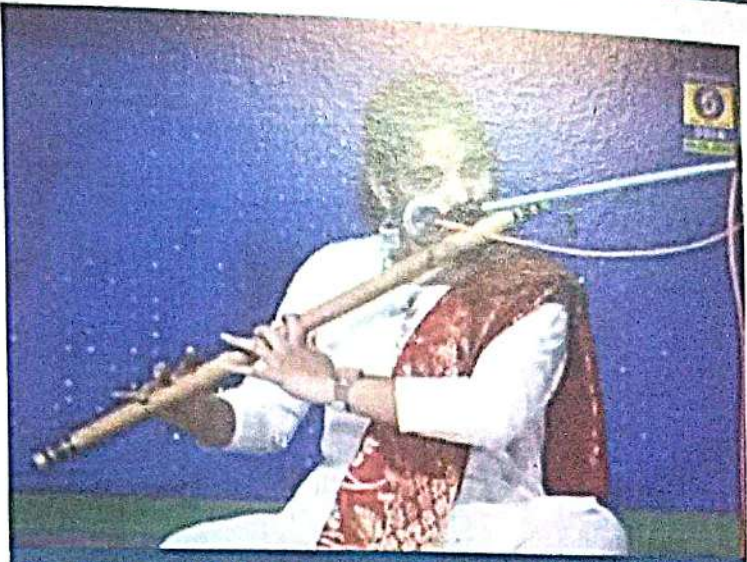
GMU Team won prizes for Group Cultural Dance, Short Film, Musical Band, Western Dance, Stand-up Comedy and English Essay Writing at Odisha State-Level Inter-University Literary and Cultural Competitions-2023 held at Rama Devi Women's University, Bhubaneswar from 29th January to 1st February 2024



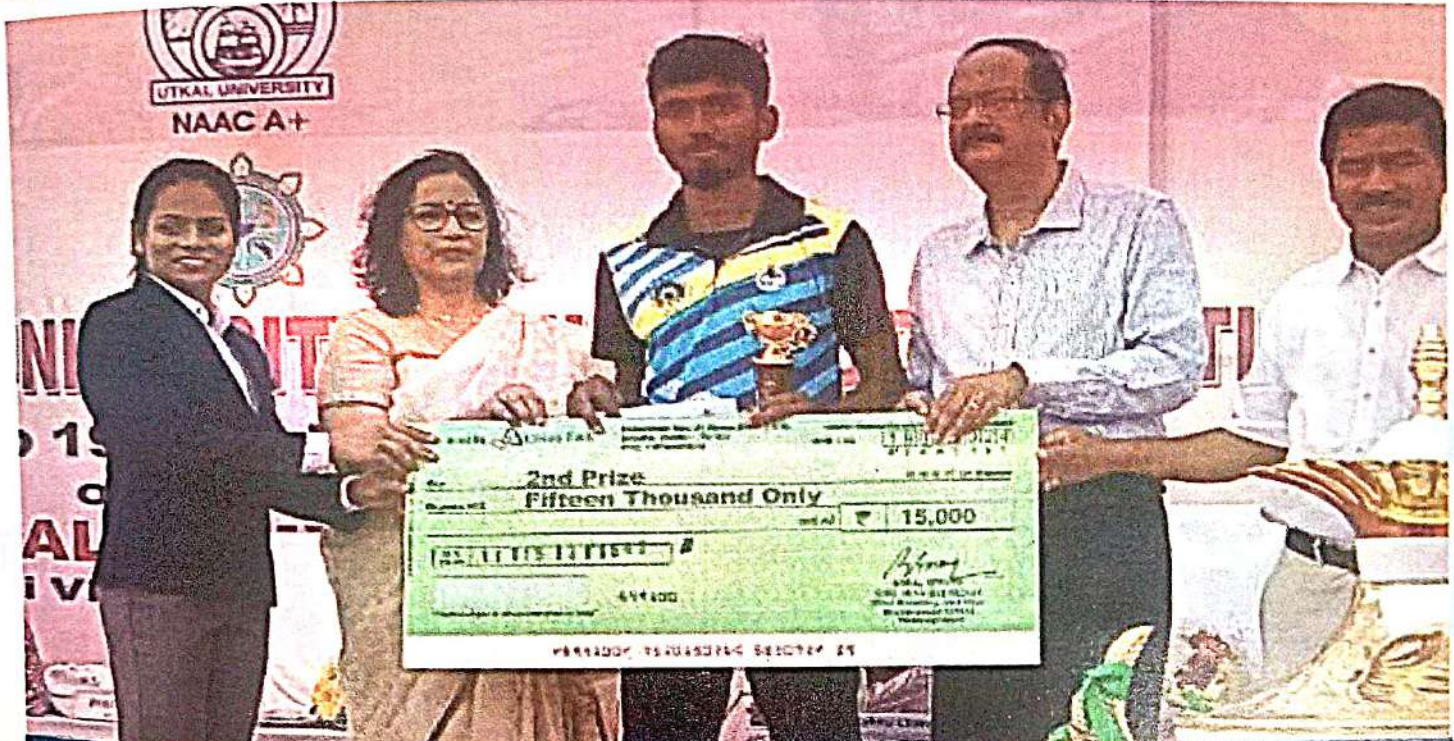
Ms. Keerti Agrawal and Ms. Gayatri Tripathy won the First Prizes in Classical Dance and Patriotic Song competitions respectively at the District Level Nua-O Fest, on 12th January 2024.



Ms. Keerti Agrawal secured the second position in Classical Dance competition organized by IIM, Sambalpur.



Ms. Nancy Patra playing Flute on Doordarshan



GMU students secured Second Prize in State Level Athletic Meet – 2023



GMU Hockey Team secured the Fourth position in OIUC Hockey Tournament-2023 organised by Sambalpur University



GMU Team won prizes in District Level Sports and Athletics competitions organized under Nua-O.

GMU in News



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