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IN FOCUS



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EDP ORGANIZED AT KIIT UNIVERSITY



A four-day Entrepreneurship Development Programme for Women Micro-Entrepreneurs was conducted at KISS in collaboration with **KIIT University**. The program brought together 50 women entrepreneurs from different regions of Odisha to engage in structured sessions and interactions with agri-entrepreneurs and micro-enterprise leaders. Prof. Dr. Saranjit Singh, VC, KIIT & KISS, also interacted with the participants during the program.

NABARD CGM INAUGURATES SOLAR COLD STORAGE FACILITY



Shri Vinod Arya, Chief General Manager of **NABARD** Odisha, inaugurated a 10 M.T. Solar Cold Storage facility at Bargaon, Balangir. Supported by OREDA and the Department of Horticulture, the project was facilitated through convergence by Ghasiandevi FPO and Mahashakti Foundation. This solar-powered infrastructure, under the Central Sector Scheme of government of India for 10,000 FPOs, aims to significantly minimize post-harvest losses and boost storage for perishable crops. By enhancing local capacity, the project strengthens market access for farmers, ensuring better price realization and driving sustainable agricultural growth through clean, renewable energy solutions.

HINDALCO LEADERSHIP VISITS PROJECT SHAKTI OFFICE



Dr Krishna Kumar Padhi, President & HR Head – Upstream Odisha and Mining Business – **Hindalco Industries Limited**, along with Dr Subroto Chatterjee, Cluster CMO and Mr Jitesh Rath – Senior TM CSR, visited the Project SHAKTI Office and interacted with the team. The discussion focused on the project's goals, business plans of SHG-led products, scalability, market positioning, and long-term sustainability. Strategic inputs were shared on strengthening branding, quality assurance, and market linkages. The visit also explored promoting Odisha's traditional art forms through enterprise development, offering valuable guidance to women beneficiaries.

PROJECT SAMRIDDI DIVERSIFIES COIR PRODUCT RANGE



The Coir Cluster at Nadhana village, Nimapada, supported by **TP Central Odisha Distribution Ltd (TPCODL)** has expanded its craftsmanship from decorative figures to innovative coir mat production using manual machines. Under Project Samridhi, over 20 artisans are currently receiving structured training. This initiative provides essential training and raw material support, strengthening technical skills and improving product quality. By enabling product diversification, the project empowers local artisans to create high-quality coir-based goods, fostering sustainable livelihoods in the region.

MAHASHAKTI FELICITATED FOR TRIBAL AREA DEVELOPMENT



The Deputy Director of Planning and the BDO of M. Rampur Block recently felicitated Mahashakti Foundation during the Sampoonnata Abhiyan programme. This recognition honours the organization's dedicated service in the tribal areas of M. Rampur. The award acknowledges continued excellence in community development, education support, and health and nutrition initiatives. Furthermore, it highlights the Foundation's success in livelihood promotion and strengthening stakeholder coordination at the grassroots level. This accolade reinforces a shared commitment to driving impactful, sustainable growth for marginalized communities through collaborative rural transformation.

VEDANTA INAUGURATES JUTE TRAINING CENTRE AT KELDAMAL



The Jute Training Centre under Project Subhalaxmi Udyogini, supported by **Vedanta Limited - Aluminium Business**, was inaugurated at Keldamal village, Jharsuguda. The ceremony was graced by Ms Harmeet Sehra, Cluster CSR Head; Mr Shanin N S, Deputy Head – CSR; Ms Aaradhya Gupta; the Sarpanch of Keldamal; BoDs of Subhalaxmi Cooperative; and SHG members. The centre will strengthen women's livelihoods through structured training in jute product manufacturing, design, and production, enhancing skills, employability, and sustainable income opportunities for rural women.

COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH SCREENING CAMPAIGN ORGANIZED



Under the IVDP Project, supported by LTM, a Health Screening Campaign was organised at Chhetgaon CHC, Paikmal Block, focusing on gynecological and Adolescent Reproductive and Sexual Health. The initiative reached 102 patients across five Gram Panchayats, providing screenings for BP, blood sugar, and haemoglobin. Led by retired gynecologist Dr. Puspanjali Mishra, the camp addressed the local shortage of specialized services. Beyond medical consultations, the program emphasized nutritional awareness for pregnant women and adolescent girls, ensuring critical healthcare access and promoting sustainable health outcomes within the tribal community.

VEDANTA SHOWCASES TRIBAL ART AT KALAHANDI UTSAV



Under Project Adikala, supported by Vedanta Ltd Aluminium Business, two stalls at Kalahandi Utsav showcased traditional Saura and Dhokra art. The four-day event featured live Saura tattoos and the launch of new products, including Dhokra antiques and musical instruments. A highlight was the felicitation of Odisha's Chief Minister, Shri Mohan Charan Majhi, with a Saura fusion artwork presented by Vedanta CEO, Shri Pranab Kumar Bhattacharyya. The initiative boosted artisan visibility, drawing enthusiastic public engagement and reinforcing a commitment to Odisha's cultural heritage.

PROJECT CHIRANTAN SUPPORTS LIVESTOCK VACCINATION



Under Project Chirantan, supported by HDFC Bank Parivartan, livestock vaccination and deworming campaigns were successfully conducted across 16 villages covering 5 Gram Panchayats of Bhuban block in Dhenkanal. The initiative focused on protecting livestock against Foot and Mouth Disease and Pox, along with deworming of goats to strengthen animal health and productivity. Through the drive, 320 cattle and 260 goats were vaccinated, helping reduce disease risks and supporting improved livestock management practices among rural households. The campaign was carried out through village-level outreach and awareness activities.

MAHASHAKTI JOINS RELIANCE FOUNDATION'S PARTNERS' MEET



Mahashakti Foundation participated in Manthan 2026, a Rural Transformation Partnership Meet hosted by Reliance Foundation. This convening brought together 41 organizations to discuss building Atmanirbhar Gaon, socially and economically empowered, sustainable villages. The dialogue focused on strategic pathways for empowering farmers, women, and youth through diversified enterprises. Discussions emphasized strengthening Gram Panchayats and implementing a new-generation convergence approach to drive collective progress and local resource management.

NEW MUSHROOM UNIT SET UP TO EMPOWER SHG'S INCOMES



A Mushroom Microenterprise was inaugurated under the IGA initiative of Project Sakhya, with the support of **Jindal Stainless Ltd.** The initiative has been introduced to strengthen sustainable livelihood opportunities for SHG members by establishing a structured and locally managed enterprise model. The intervention includes capacity building, technical training, and continuous handholding support to ensure improved production practices, quality management, and market preparedness. Through this effort, the income base of participating SHG members is expected to improve while building long-term enterprise management capabilities within the community.

SENSITIZING HIGH-PRIORITY VILLAGES ON FIRE PREVENTION



Five Forest Fire Prevention Awareness Programs were successfully conducted with the support of the **Govt. of Odisha**, in collaboration with the Angul Forest Division across the Chhendipada Range, covering five high-priority villages. A professional Pala group captivated villagers through powerful folk performances, creatively highlighting the dangers of forest fires and the urgent need for biodiversity conservation. The programs were graced by the presence of several forest officials. The local residents were sensitized on fire-safe practices and encouraged to act as vigilant first responders.

VEDANTA INAUGURATES A NEW MARTIAL ARTS TRAINING CENTRE



Vedanta Group's VGCB Port inaugurated the Vedanta Martial Arts Training Centre in Visakhapatnam under its flagship CSR initiative, Project Yuva. The centre promotes the physical, mental, and social development of youth through structured training. The event, attended by Sri Suman Talwar and VGCB leadership, featured a live karate demonstration by students. Coach Ms. Durga Bhawani Goud highlighted how martial arts build character and resilience. With over 500 beneficiaries already supported, Project Yuva continues to empower the next generation through sports and disciplined character-building.

PROJECT ISRRRC INTRODUCES MUSKMELON CULTIVATION



A training program on muskmelon cultivation was conducted at Sindurmunda village under Project ISRRRC supported by **Reliance Foundation**. Farmers were introduced to the improved Arka Siri variety through demonstrations covering nursery management, field preparation, and harvesting. The session, attended by KVK Balangir and Reliance Foundation experts, also oriented farmers on mulching and drip irrigation. Seeds covering 6 acres were distributed. To ensure sustainability, market linkages will be facilitated through Green Gudvella FPO, providing farmers with assured market access.

MOU STRENGTHENS SOCIAL PROTECTION FOR WOMEN



The Bargarh District Administration, District Social Welfare Office (DSWO) of the **Government of Odisha**, and Mahashakti Foundation signed an MoU to strengthen social welfare delivery. Formally executed by DSWO Mrs. Sandhya Rani Nepak and Ms. Rojaleen Bhuyan, Secretary of Mahashakti Foundation, the agreement designates the Foundation as the Implementation Agency for Mukhya Mantri Kanya Bibaha Yojana. This strategic partnership focuses on coordinated planning and improved outreach, ensuring effective scheme implementation and enhanced social protection for eligible beneficiaries across the Bargarh district.

FARMERS MASTER SCIENTIFIC POULTRY REARING PRACTICES



A Backyard Poultry Management training program was conducted at Baraloi village for farmers under the APC Project, supported by the **Government of Odisha**. Facilitated by a Veterinary Department Livestock Inspector, the session covered scientific rearing, vaccination, disease prevention, and housing to improve survival rates. A practical demonstration on Azolla cultivation highlighted its value as a cost-effective, nutritious feed supplement. This initiative strengthens technical capacity, ensuring better bird health and enhanced productivity for rural households.

NEW EQUIPMENT TRAINING BOOSTS NUAGAON CRAFT CLUSTER



A Modern Equipment Training on Brass Welding for Dhokra Artefacts was initiated at the Dhokra Metal Craft Cluster in Nuagaon, Saptasajya, Dhenkanal, under Project Samridhi, with the support of **TP Central Odisha Distribution Limited**. Led by Master Trainer Mr. Santosh Kumar Swain, the first day focused on introducing brass welding techniques, equipment handling, and safety practices to enhance the strength, durability, and finishing of Dhokra products. The continuous training process aims to upgrade artisans' technical skills, and improve livelihood opportunities within the cluster by strengthening traditional craftsmanship through modern skill integration.

PROJECT UDYAMEE EXPLORES OYSTER MUSHROOM CULTIVATION



Livelihood Expert Mr Birendra Pradhan visited Paradiguda village to conduct a feasibility assessment for a proposed Mushroom Unit under Project Udyamee, supported by **Aditya Alumina Refinery**. After evaluating local climate and site suitability, Oyster Mushroom cultivation was recommended. Through an Entrepreneurship Awareness Programme, he shared practical insights and field experiences with beneficiaries. Mr. Pradhan emphasized the project's potential for income enhancement and enterprise development, encouraging community participation in the initiative.

SUCCESS STORY



FROM HIGH SCHOOL DROPOUT TO EMPOWERED ENTREPRENEUR

In the heart of Niyamgiri Vedanta Nagar (NVN), Rajani Challan's story stands as a powerful testament to how targeted skill development and cultural preservation can transform lives. At 23, Rajani once faced a future clouded by uncertainty. After completing Class 12, she was forced to drop out of school to support her mother and four siblings. Despite her ambition, local opportunities were scarce, and her primary focus remained the immediate survival of her household.

The trajectory of Rajani's life shifted significantly when Project Adikala - a flagship CSR initiative by **Vedanta Ltd Aluminium Business**, Lanjigarh, introduced a Saura Art training programme in her colony. Saura art, a traditional tribal mural painting style from Odisha, became Rajani's gateway to financial independence. Recognizing the potential for a meaningful livelihood, she joined the training and displayed an extraordinary aptitude for the craft, mastering the intricate geometric patterns and symbolic motifs within just two weeks.

Rajani's transition from a student to a professional artist was rapid. In 2024, the Kritikala Producer Group, supported by Vedanta, received a substantial order for 160 Saura paintings from the District Magistrate's Office. This was Rajani's first encounter with a large-scale production deadline. Working with discipline and speed, the group completed the assignment in just two days. The financial rewards were immediate and deeply personal. After receiving her initial payments of ₹1,500 and ₹5,000, Rajani chose to honour her mother, purchasing a saree and a gold ring, symbols of a daughter's burgeoning success and gratitude. Today, Rajani's expertise has expanded far beyond the canvas. Through continuous exposure and structured guidance under Project Adikala, she has mastered in Product Diversification, Large-scale Wall Art, and Technical Operations. Her dedication has translated into a stable monthly income exceeding ₹20,000. Beyond her personal earnings, Rajani has become a pillar of her community, training approximately 400 students at the SSD School in Lanjigarh. Her work has been showcased at prestigious exhibitions across Odisha, including the Angul Pallishree Mela, where her group earned the Best Innovative Product award.

In Her Own Words

"After joining the Saura Art group under Project Adikala, my life changed. I learned new skills, started earning, and now I support my family. From buying a saree and gold ring for my mother to earning more than ₹20,000 per month, I feel proud of my journey. I want to continue my higher studies in Arts and keep promoting Saura Art while building a secure future for my family."

Rajani Challan

EVENT SNAPSHOTS

This page captures the significant events, milestones, and initiatives undertaken during February 2026, showcasing the impactful work and achievements throughout the month.



Mr. Ganga Sharma (ASI Auditor), Mr. Siba Mohapatra (Cluster Head-CSR, Hindalco Industries Ltd), and Mr. Jitesh Rath (Sr. TM-CSR) visited Project Shakti Office.



The Tata Power Leadership team visited the Samridhi Art and Craft Sales Gallery to gain insights into the initiatives being showcased.



Manipal Hospital Bhubaneswar conducted a speciality health camp for employees of Head Office, providing orthopaedic consultations and essential screenings.



LTM supported sports competition in Chhetgaon, Paikmal, engaged 400 students, with prizes awarded by MLA Barsha Singh Bariha.



Project Sakhyam conducted awareness camps for students and community members, focusing on tree plantation, forest protection, and fire prevention.



Animal health camps in Sukinda were organized with support of JSL, immunizing 1,093 livestock across three villages to enhance livelihood security.

