

# KIIT Sustainable Development Report 2024







# KALINGA INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY

KIIT Deemed to be University (Declared U/S 3 of UGC Act, 1956), Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India



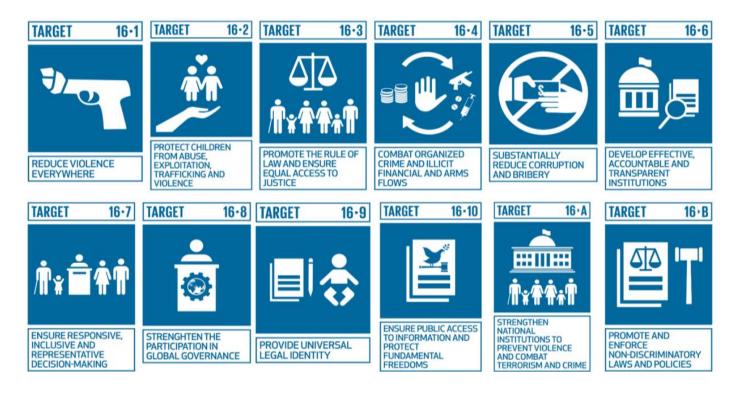


# SDG 16 - Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions

## 16. Introduction

KIIT University actively contributes to **SDG 16 – Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions** through research, governance, and educational initiatives that promote transparency, justice, and inclusive institutions. The university conducts research on peacebuilding, access to justice, human rights, and governance models, generating knowledge that supports social stability and the rule of law. KIIT ensures strong university governance measures by implementing transparent policies, ethical practices, and participatory decision-making processes, fostering a culture of accountability and integrity. The university collaborates with government bodies, law enforcement agencies, and civil society organizations to support policy development, promote good governance, and strengthen institutional frameworks. Education programs at KIIT include law, public administration, and civil services, equipping students with the skills and knowledge to contribute to legal, governmental, and civil enforcement sectors. Sustainability is embedded in these efforts by promoting responsible citizenship, ethical leadership, and long-term institutional resilience, contributing to just, peaceful, and inclusive societies.

The SDG 16 (Peace Justice and Strong Institutions) report focuses on the progress, key initiatives, and impact achievements across the following targets:







16.1 KIIT's Commitment to SDG 16 (Peace Justice and Strong Institutions): Research Publications, Patents Filed, Global Collaborations, Citations Received, Events Organized, and Community Activities - Key Figures



PEACE CANNOT
BE KEPT BY
FORCE; IT CAN
ONLY
BE ACHIEVED
BY
UNDERSTANDING

**ALBERT EINSTEIN** 



27+ RESEARCH ARTICLES (2024)



12+
NATIONAL
COLLABORATORS



5+ RESEARCH PROJECT



13+ PATENTS



13+ COURSE UNITS



55+ EVENTS & ACTIVITIES



40+ MEDIA HIGHLIGHTS



26+ NEWS & REFERENCES

**PUBLICATION IMPACT-**



293+ TOTAL CITATIONS



2.79+
CITATION
IMPACT





0.78%
INDIA
PUBLICATIONS



14%
INTERNATIONALLY
CO-AUTHORED



209+ LAKH RESEARCH INCOME





# **16.2 University Governance Measures**

## Fostering Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions: The KIIT Governance Model

As a bulwark of democratic governance and institutional integrity, Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT) Deemed to be University actively promotes the values embodied in Sustainable Development Goal 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions. The dedication of KIIT is woven into its operational and strategic structure and goes beyond simple policy documentation. The institution has painstakingly built an ecosystem of open, responsible, and participatory governance to guarantee inclusive, representative, and efficient decision-making at all levels.

Through its multi-tiered statutory bodies, dynamic student engagement pacts, comprehensive stakeholder integration, and a zero-tolerance stance against corruption, KIIT cultivates a culture of peace, ethical conduct, and institutional resilience. This report delineates KIIT DU's holistic approach to building and sustaining robust institutions that serve as a model for higher education in India and beyond.

# 16.2.1 Statutory Governing Bodies: A Framework for Inclusive and Representative Governance

The stability of an institution's governance mechanisms determines its strength. A complex framework of statutory bodies has been developed by KIIT Deemed to be University to guarantee varied representation and group stewardship. In order to minimize power consolidation and promote a culture of shared responsibility, this system is made to include voices from both inside and outside the university community.

As the highest governing body, the Board of Management sets the strategic direction and operational guidelines for the institution. Its makeup demonstrates KIIT's dedication to inclusive governance. It is chaired by the Vice-Chancellor and consists of the Pro-Vice Chancellor, Deans, faculty members chosen by rotation, a Sponsoring Society nominee, the Registrar in the role of Secretary, and distinguished academicians and businesspeople recommended by the Chancellor. The university's trajectory is guaranteed to be both academically sound and in line with social and industrial demands thanks to this combination of internal leadership and outside experience.

The Academic Council, the highest academic body, is in charge of academia. Its composition is particularly broad, guaranteeing detailed scholarly review. It comprises elected representatives from all academic ranks, including professors, associate professors, and assistant professors, in addition to the vice chancellor, pro-vice chancellor, deans, and heads of departments. Importantly, it also appropriates well-known outside educators and, in a big step, invites alumni as guests. This framework ensures that a diverse group of seasoned educators create academic policies and that their viewpoints are influenced by those who have entered the workforce. (<a href="https://kiit.ac.in/academic-council/">https://kiit.ac.in/academic-council/</a>)

The Finance Committee advocates openness and financial discipline. A representative of the Central Government, a member nominated by the Board of Management (including an external representation), a person recommended by the Society, and the Finance Officer in the role of Secretary are all included in this committee, which is chaired by the Vice-Chancellor. Strict financial control and adherence to national rules are guaranteed by this composition. (<a href="https://kiit.ac.in/members-of-finance-committee/">https://kiit.ac.in/members-of-finance-committee/</a>)

In order to further decentralize governance, every School or Department has its own Board of Studies (BOS), which consists of parents, alumni, and outside representatives from business and academics. This guarantees that curriculum creation is current, relevant, and sensitive to market needs. Comprising both



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17. Prof. R. K. Barik

# KIIT SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT REPORT 2024



internal senior members and external stakeholders, the Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC: <a href="https://iqac.kiit.ac.in/">https://iqac.kiit.ac.in/</a>) serves as a nodal unit for ongoing quality development by offering an objective assessment of academic and administrative procedures.

#### KHT Deemed to be University, Bhubaneswar Minutes of the Board of Studies Meeting, School of Computer Applications

ate: 2	27thJuly 2024		Time: 10.30 AM
lemb	ers Present		
1.	Prof. V. Goswami		Chairperson
2.	Prof. Bibhudutta Sahoo	-	External member
3.	Prof.Mrinal Kanti Debbarma		External member
4.	Prof. M.R. Patra	-	External member
5.	Sri Arindam Sadhu		External member
6.	Sri Malaya Das	-	External member
7.	Sri P.O. Parida		External member
8.	Prof. J.R. Mohanty	-	Member
9.	Prof. M.R. Mishra		Member
10.	Prof. S.S. Patra	-	Member
11.	Prof. S.R. Dash	-	Member
12.	Prof. C. Misra		Member
13.	Prof. M. Mukul	-	Member
14.	Prof. P. Vijayeeta		Member
15.	Prof. Sudhakar Sahu		Member
16.	Sri. Puspendu Nandi		Alumni member

An online meeting of the Board of Studies of the School of Computer Applications was convened on 27th July 2024 at 10.30 A.M. The panel consisted of Prof. Mrinal Kanti Debbarma, Professor National Institute of Technology, Agartala, Prof. Bibhudutta Saboo, Professor, National Institute of Technology Rourkela, Dr. M.R. Patra, Professor, Berhampur University, Mr. Malaya Das, NIC, Bhubaneswar, Sri P.O. Parida, T.CS, Bhubaneswar and Sri Arindam Sadhu, Group Project Manager, Infosys, representing the external board of study members. Sri Puspendu Nandi, Associate, Pricewaterhouse Coppers Services, represented the alumni. All the school's internal BoS members also participated in the meeting.

The first phase of the meeting covered discussions on the proposal to extend the three-year BCA program to a four-year BCA (Bachelor of Computer Application) program as per NEP 2020. The draft course structure for the four-year BCA (Bachelor of Computer Application) as per NEP 2020 was discussed, and changes were made as per the prescribed NEP 2020 guidelines. The members actively participated in the discussion. The theory and practical components were discussed in detail, and changes were proposed and incorporated into the course structure.

After thorough deliberations and considering the above inputs from all the members, the Board of Studies recommends the attached course structures [Annexure 1: Four-year BCA (Bachelor of Computer Application) as per NEP 2020].

	office of the registrar kalinga institute of industrial technology (Kiit) deemed to be university bhubaneswar								
16	o. KIIT-DU/581/24	Date: 15th	May, 2024						
		Nursing under KHT Deemed to be University so) years from 15/05/2024 to 14/05/2025 :	is constituted with						
1	Dr. Niyati Das,	Professor Cum Principal, Kalinga Institute of Nursing Sciences	Chairperson						
2	Prof. (Dr.) Uma Adhikari	Principal, College of Nursing, NRS MC & H, Kolkata	External Member						
3	Dr. Shashidhara YN	Professor & HOD Dept. of Community Health Nursing, Manipal College of Nursing, Manipal	External Member						
4	Dr. Kniti Deepa Mohanty	Principal I/C, College of Nursing, Burla	External Member						
5	Dr. Anjana Raut	Professor, Kalinga Institute of Dental Sciences,	Internal Member from other school						
6	Mr. Asokan R	Professor, Kalinga Institute of Nursing Sciences	Internal Member						
7	Dr. Anusuya Pattnaik	Professor, Kalinga Institute of Nursing Sciences	Internal Member						
8	Dr. V. Sivasankari	Associate Professor, Kalinga Institute of Nursing Sciences	Internal Member						
9	Mr. Chandan Pradhan	Associate Professor, Kalinga Institute of Nursing Sciences	Internal Member						
10	Ms. Sohini Karmakar	Lecturer, St. John's College of Nursing, Bangalore	Alumni Member						
11	Ms. Sakshi	B.Sc Nursing 4th Semester, Kalinga Institute of Nursing Sciences	Student Member						
12	Prof. Kalyani Rath	Professor cum Vice Principal, Kalinga Institute of Nursing Sciences	Convener						
A copy	nc Members concerned Principal , Kalinga Institute of AO to the Vice Chancellor for I	of Nursing Sciences ind information of How ble Vice Chancellor. remation of How ble Founder, XIII & XISS							

#### Organogram of the University



Through this multi-layered governance architecture, KIIT demonstrates that strong institutions are built on the pillars of participation, representation, and transparency.

#### 16.2.2 Enactments between University and Students' Council: A Partnership in Governance

KIIT understands that students are essential members of the institutional ecosystem as well as recipients of education. A framework of cooperation and shared governance formalizes the connection between the institution and its Students' Council, guaranteeing that the student voice is not only heard but also plays a crucial role in determining their educational journey.

The inclusion of student council members in high-level decision-making organizations is a unique aspect of KIIT's program. Students participate in the Board of Management, Academic Council, Board of Studies, IQAC, and Finance Committee as invited visitors or active members. They may offer immediate input on academic policies, curriculum relevance, infrastructure requirements, and budgetary planning because of their direct engagement, which makes governance really responsive to its main stakeholders.







#### NOTIFICATION

The Student Council of KIIT Deemed to be University for the academic year June 2023 to May 2024 has been constituted with the following members:

SI.No.	Name of the Student	Roll. No.
1	Dibyadyuti Sengupta	21051733
2	Shreyansh Raj	2130163
3	Debabrata Kar	2105115
4	Surbhi Negi	21051946
5	Ashish Anand	21051645
6	Anish Singh	2105442
7	Pushkar Anand	22051872
8	Ritik Kishan Giri	22052748
9	Romancha Basu	22052667
10	Riya Majumdar	2229053
11	Priyangsu Banerjee	22052490
12	Debasis Mishra	23057019
13	Anshuman Panda	2330071
14	Shaurya Amit	2330448

The members will help in coordinating all events related to Academics, Cultural and Sports at KIIT Deemed to be University, Bhubaneswar as per the directives of respective faculty.

After receiving your reply, we will inform the students accordingly.

Additional Registrar KIIT Deemed to be Universit

Copy to:

PS to Registrar, for kind information of the Registrar
 AO to Vice Chancellor for kind information of the Vice Chancellor

The scope of student engagement is further amplified through the KIIT Student Activity Centre (KSAC), which oversees 28 diverse student societies. These societies are microcosms of strong, self-governing institutions. For instance:

- The **KIIT MUN** Society fosters diplomatic dialogue and an understanding of global governance.
- Kamakshi & HeforShe advocates for gender equality and justice within the campus community.
- Enactus and the KIIT E-Cell drive social entrepreneurship and ethical business models.
- **KHWAAB**, through its pillars of 'Art of Giving', 'Kompassion', and 'India against Negativity,' instills a deep sense of social justice and community service.
- The Centre for Constitutional Law Studies & Research and the Centre for Studies in Criminal Law & Criminal Justice Administration promote legal awareness and research into justice delivery systems.

Additionally, programs like the National Cadet Corps (NCC) and the National Service Scheme (NSS) involve pupils in discipline and community service, encouraging a feeling of civic duty and national obligation. "Learning from Peers," a peer-to-peer mentorship program, ensures that no student is left behind by fostering a fair and encouraging learning environment. This all-encompassing partnership approach guarantees that students graduate as empowered, responsible citizens dedicated to just and peaceful communities, in addition to being accomplished professionals.

#### 16.2.3 Stakeholders' Engagement: Weaving a Tapestry of Collaborative Governance

KIIT's commitment to strong institutions is epitomized by its proactive and structured Stakeholders' Engagement Policy. The university identifies a wide array of internal and external stakeholders—including students, faculty, staff, alumni, parents, employers, government agencies, and local communities—and integrates them systematically into its governance and developmental processes.

The policy outlines clear channels for engagement. Internal stakeholders provide annual feedback on curriculum, teaching-learning processes, and infrastructure, and are invited to be members of key committees like the Program Assessment Committees and Board of Studies. External stakeholders are engaged through specialized cells:





• The **Industry Engagement Cell (IEC)** liaises with employers for curriculum feedback, guest lectures, and sponsored research, ensuring academic programs align with industry needs.



• The **Alumni Cell** harnesses the experience of graduates for curriculum updates, mentorship, and creating job opportunities, with their feedback directly influencing Program Educational Objectives. (https://alumni.kiit.ac.in/)



• The **International Relations Office (IRO)** collaborates with embassies and global universities to enhance the international outlook of programs and student mobility. (<a href="https://kiit.ac.in/international-relations-office/">https://kiit.ac.in/international-relations-office/</a>)



• The **Community Engagement Cell (CEC)** organizes outreach programs, legal aid camps, and health awareness drives, extending the university's commitment to justice and peace into the wider community. (<a href="https://kiit.ac.in/community-engagement/">https://kiit.ac.in/community-engagement/</a>)



This is not a surface-level interaction. Comprehensive questionnaires are given to parents, alumni, and employers to evaluate the university's performance and the skills of its graduates. The Office of the Vice-Chancellor carefully examines this input in order to develop plans for ongoing development.





This involvement is further reinforced by the university's wide network of Centers of Excellence and research partnerships. Stakeholders from academia, business, and the court are involved in research that directly affects policy, legal frameworks, and innovation through centers such as the Centre for Public Policy and Research, the Centre for Arbitration, and the IPR Centre. Working together on R&D initiatives with national and international organizations, including the Department of Science & Technology and the UBS Optimus Foundation, shows a dedication to open, responsible, and beneficial research methods.

## 16.2.4 Recognition and Participatory Engagement of Local Stakeholders at KIIT-DU

KIIT Deemed to be University (KIIT-DU) actively ensures inclusive and participatory stakeholder engagement through various formal mechanisms and community platforms. The university recognizes the importance of involving local residents, government representatives, and civil society organizations in its governance and development processes.

## **Procedure for Engagement with External Stakeholders**

- External stakeholders like Students, alumni, parents and employers in major decision-making bodies of the University and in its Governance. Well defined policies and procedures for national and international collaborations with academia, research organizations and industries for academic and research collaboration have resulted in Memorandum of Understandings. This has led to faculty and student exchange programs, collaborative research, well defined and updated curriculum and courses catering to issues of national and international relevance, internship opportunities for students and collaborative faculty development programs.
- The University has a strong governance system as approved by the University Grants Council (India), which is the chief authorizing agency for the University.

KIIT has established dedicated bodies and forums—such as the Community Engagement Cell, KIIT Centre for Social Responsibility, and the Centre of Excellence for Sustainability and Equity—to facilitate dialogue and participation among diverse stakeholder groups. Regular consultations, public forums, and collaborative projects are organized with local panchayats, municipal authorities, NGOs, and community-based organizations to integrate community perspectives into university initiatives.

https://kiit.ac.in/policies/stakeholder-engagement-policy/https://kiit.ac.in/community-engagement/

- The University appoints industry personnel and other local stakeholders as external members of in its major decision-making bodies as part of its policies and procedures. These bodies include:
  - ✓ Board of studies of each school which looks into curriculum revision and update for different undergraduate and postgraduate courses and programs running in the schools.
  - ✓ The Academic Council, the premier academic body of KIIT Deemed to be University, serves as the principal authority for all academic matters and policy decisions. The Council includes 08 external academic experts from renowned institutions across the country, who actively participate in the university's decision-making processes, ensuring academic excellence, transparency, and alignment with national and global educational standards. <a href="https://kiit.ac.in/academic-council/">https://kiit.ac.in/academic-council/</a>
  - ✓ The Executive Council of KIIT Deemed to be University serves as the apex decision-making body, overseeing strategic planning, governance, and overall administration. It includes 04 distinguished external members from reputed institutions and industries who hold senior positions, contributing valuable expertise and perspective to the university's leadership and decision-making processes. <a href="https://kiit.ac.in/members-of-executive-council/">https://kiit.ac.in/members-of-executive-council/</a>





- ✓ The Board of Management of the University which is the apex governing body of the organization has representations of stakeholders from outside.
- ✓ The Internal Quality Assurance Cell acting as a nodal unit for reviewing the institutional academic policies and practices and augments quality related activities.
- ✓ The Industrial Advisory Board comprising industry professional from small to large scale corporations who are involved in revising and evaluating Program Educational Objectives, advising on curriculum update from time to time and facilitate collaborations and partnerships with the industry.
- ✓ The Academic Audit, administrative audit and financial audit are being carried out with professionals and experts invited by the University authorities.
- ✓ Additionally, all stakeholders including the alumni, parents, reputed academicians, representatives from industry and employers are involved in providing feedback on the curriculum, framing of course/student outcomes and program educational objectives.
- ✓ Further, external members from academic and industry are part of the panels for evaluation of research thesis and technical projects being conducted in the University.

## **\*** KIIT CSR Forums: Driving Community Engagement and Social Responsibility

The KIIT-Technology Business Incubator (KIIT-TBI), a not-for-profit initiative of KIIT Deemed to be University established in 2009, is supported by government bodies such as DST, MeitY, MSME, BIRAC, **TDB**, and **NSTEDB** to strengthen India's entrepreneurial ecosystem.

As part of its rural empowerment efforts, KIIT-TBI launched the Women Tech Park (WTP) initiative aimed at fostering alternative livelihoods for rural women through technology-based interventions, training, and enterprise development. WTPs serve as hubs for technology adaptation, skill enhancement, and social entrepreneurship, while also promoting awareness on sanitation, health, **hygiene**, and nutrition to encourage sustainable and healthy community lifestyles.

https://kiitincubator.in/rwtp/



Girls High School Belpahar, Jharsuguda



LED Bulb Production Unit at WTP Kandhamal



Awareness Program at WTP Kandhamal





Phenyl Making Training at WTP Kandhamal



LED Bulb, Pickle, Potato Chips, Millet Noodles Marketing Campaign









❖ KIIT Deemed to be University, through its Internal Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), conducted the Academic Assessment and Audit for 2023–24 from 7th May to 11th May 2024, covering all UG, PG, and Ph.D. programmes. A welcome session was held for 38 external eminent academicians from reputed institutions across India who evaluated the university's academic and administrative performance. The audit focused on curriculum design, teaching-learning, research and faculty development, student support, and academic infrastructure—reflecting KIIT-DU's commitment to continuous quality enhancement. The Audit Committee provided constructive observations and recommendations aimed at further strengthening the university's academic standards.



❖ Through its close partnership with **Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences (KISS)** and local welfare departments, KIIT also engages marginalized groups, including tribal communities and displaced populations, in educational, health, and livelihood programs.

These participatory efforts ensure that decision-making at KIIT-DU remains **inclusive**, **transparent**, **and responsive** to the needs and aspirations of the local community—demonstrating the university's strong commitment to social equity, sustainable development, and shared growth.

# 16.2.5 Principles and Commitments on Organized Crime, Corruption & Bribery

At its core, a strong institution is an ethical one. With its strong Anti-Corruption and Anti-Bribery Policy 2020, KIIT Deemed to be University makes no space for doubt in its opposition to corruption, bribery, and malpractices.

https://kiit.ac.in/policies/

#### **Anti-Corruption and Anti-Bribery Policy**

- KIIT commits of zero tolerance towards fraudulent approaches including bribery
- Bribery of any sort shall not be paid or accepted from stakeholders, clients, suppliers, politicians, government / public official or general public etc for or on behalf of the University.
- Gifts or meals offered should be within normal civility.
- Also the Extract for Clause 11.10 'Gifts' of Human Resource Manual of the University states that 'in the discharge of his / her duties, no employee shall, except with the prior sanction of the competent authority, accept or permit his wife or any other member of his / her family to accept from any person other than relatives any gift of more than trifling value. The interpretation of the term 'trifling value' shall be the same as laid down in the Government Servants Conduct Rules'.





- This policy is applicable to all students, employees including senior management / directors of the University and third parties.
- Staff members are requested to report suspected violations of this Policy, and provide evidence of
  cases of bribery, corruption and manipulation; co-operate with any investigation or audit activities
  relating to matters covered by the Policy.
- Director Administration is responsible for monitoring compliance with this policy, reporting the breaches and providing solutions
- The contents of the Anti-Corruption and Bribery Policy will be reviewed on its effectiveness by the Internal Audit Department every two years and amendments if any required, may be made with the approval of the Board of Management.

## 16.2.6 Academic Freedom Policy: Cultivating a Culture of Inquiry in 2024

As a key component of its academic environment, KIIT Deemed to be University has upheld its Academic Freedom Policy in 2024, guaranteeing that both staff and students are free to seek and share information. The university's operating procedures actively demonstrate this dedication.

https://kiit.ac.in/policies/academic-freedom-policy-2020/



Through diverse research collaborations with external national and international institutions as well as inside the university, faculty members have exercised their independence. They are now able to create and execute dynamic curriculum that include the most recent research findings and industry trends into their instruction thanks to the legislation. Additionally, throughout 2024, teachers have planned and actively participated in teachers Development Programs (FDPs) and national and international conferences, sharing their knowledge and fostering intellectual conversation.

The extensive Choice Based Credit System (CBCS) has given students academic independence by enabling them to customize their educational pathways with a vast range of electives and specialties. The continuous improvement and updating of academic curricula has been made possible in large part by the student input gathered in 2024. Peer-led learning sessions and the activities of more than 28 technical and cultural societies under the KIIT Student Activity Centre (KSAC) are two examples of initiatives that have created a stimulating environment for creative thinking and teamwork.

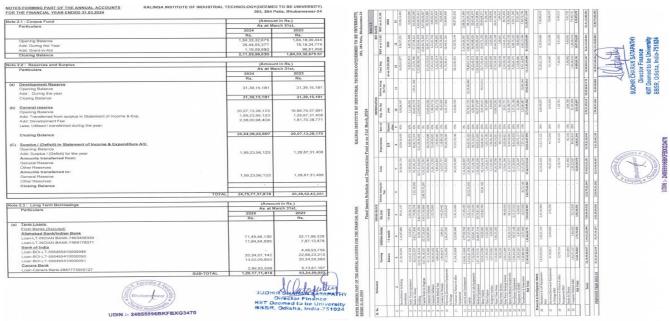
#### 16.2.7 University Financial Status: Exemplifying Transparency in 2024

An unwavering level of financial responsibility and openness is upheld by KIIT Deemed to be University. By posting its audited financial statements and balance sheets on its official website in 2024, the institution has carried on with its public transparency policy. All parties involved, including students, staff, partners, and the general public, may obtain clear and thorough information on the institution's financial management and health thanks to this proactive openness.





#### KIIT Deemed to be University — Balance Sheet for the Financial Year 2023-2024



# https://kiit.ac.in/balancesheet/

These financial records are routinely sent to all national accrediting organizations and statutory regulatory bodies, such as the University Grants Commission (UGC). This strict dedication to open-book governance and financial compliance in 2024 strengthens KIIT's standing as a morally and financially competent organization, fostering long-lasting confidence.

# 16.3 Working with Government

KIIT has always been a vital knowledge partner for all levels of government. Through its specialist schools and research units, the university has applied its experience in 2024 to inform important initiatives and policies.

#### 16.3.1 Specific Expert Advice to Government in 2024

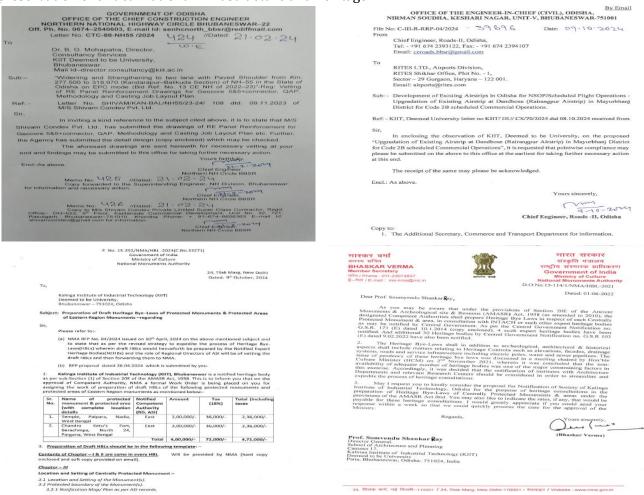
- KIIT Deemed to be University provided critical, formalized expert advice to the national government, primarily through its recognition as a notified Expert Heritage Body by the National Monuments Authority (NMA), Ministry of Culture.
- The university's most significant advisory role was in the domain of national heritage conservation. Following its official notification, KIIT was entrusted by the NMA with the specialized task of preparing draft Heritage Bye-Laws for specific centrally protected monuments, namely the Temple in Palpara and Chandra Ketu's Fort in West Bengal. This expert advice involves creating the comprehensive legal and technical framework that will govern all development in the vicinity of these sites. Their work directly informs government policy by defining the 'heritage controls'—regulating building elevations, facades, and service infrastructure—to ensure the long-term preservation of the nation's archaeological and architectural assets.
- Furthermore, KIIT's expertise was sought by the Government of Odisha for strategic transport infrastructure projects being developed under national schemes. For a National Highway (NH-55) project, the university's experts were engaged to conduct a rigorous technical vetting of critical design elements, including reinforcement drawings and quality assurance plans. In a separate aviation project, they provided detailed technical observations on a proposal to upgrade an airstrip





for scheduled commercial operations. In both instances, the government relied on KIIT's independent, high-level technical scrutiny to validate project plans, ensure compliance with safety standards, and inform their final approval decisions.

Through these engagements, KIIT has solidified its role as a essential knowledge partner for the national government, providing actionable, technical, and regulatory advice that directly shapes the execution and preservation of critical national infrastructure and heritage.



#### 16.3.1.1 Expert Advice to National Government

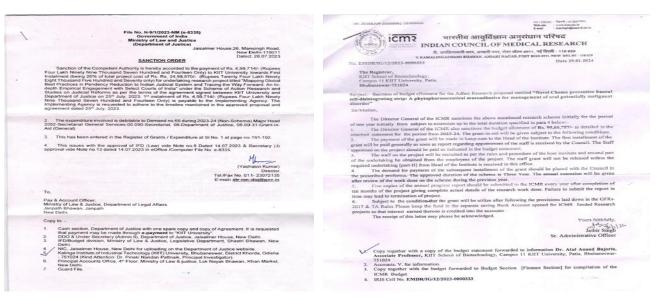
❖ Mapping Global Best Practices in Pendency Reduction to Indian Judicial System and Tracing the Way Forward: An In-depth Empirical Engagement with Select Courts of India"

This research initiative, funded by the **Department of Justice**, **Ministry of Law and Justice**, represents a critical evidence-based approach to judicial reform. Expert advice to the government would position this as a paramount investment in strengthening the foundational pillar of democracy—the justice system. The project's aim to reduce case pendency by mapping global best practices to the Indian context directly enhances the **effectiveness of public institutions**.

The grant's administration is a definitive model for governance, intrinsically aligned with the principles of **accountability**, **transparency**, **and inclusive institutions**. The meticulously defined, results-based payment schedule—with installments released only upon the satisfactory completion of deliverables—ensures rigorous **accountability**. Mandatory submission of utilization certificates and audited statements enforces supreme **financial transparency**. Furthermore, the contractual clauses for public access to the final report and potential monitoring visits build **public trust**.







# ❖ Novel Chemo preventive buccal self-disintegrating strip: A phytopharmaceutical mucoadhesive for management of oral potentially malignant disorder

This ICMR-funded research project on a novel oral cancer prevention method offers a model for national policy in public research investment. Expert advice to the government would emphasize its value in bridging scientific discovery and tangible public health applications, advocating for continued support of such translational work. The detailed budgetary allocation demonstrates a framework for transparent and efficient use of public funds, ensuring resources are directly tied to project deliverables. The grant's management protocol provides a blueprint for strengthening national research ecosystems. It balances institutional autonomy with central oversight, building capacity within universities while maintaining accountability.

The entire process embodies core principles of good governance, directly linking to SDG 16 through its emphasis on transparency, accountability, and effective institutions. The clear sanctioning of funds, mandatory progress reviews, and structured financial oversight foster public access to information and build trust in institutions. This framework ensures that scientific advancement is achieved through inclusive and participatory decision-making and robust institutional oversight, making it a exemplary case of aligning national research strategy with broader objectives of effective, accountable, and transparent governance.



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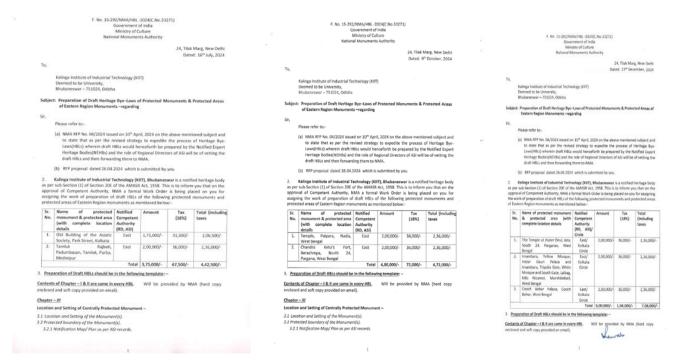




## ❖ Promotion of University Research and Scientific Excellence (PURSE) - Project

This sanction by the Department of Science & Technology (DST) for interdisciplinary research infrastructure exemplifies strategic national policy to strengthen the academic foundation. Expert advice to the government would highlight this as a critical investment in building long-term scientific and institutional capacity, moving beyond individual projects to create a sustainable research ecosystem. The funding model, which requires a significant contribution from the host institute, fosters co-investment and shared commitment to excellence, ensuring efficient resource utilization.

The grant's administration is a model of governance aligned with the principles of effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions. The mandated financial routing through a Central Nodal Account, strict adherence to public financial rules, and explicit requirements for audit trails enforce supreme transparency and accountability in the use of public funds. This structured fund flow minimizes diversion risk and builds public trust. Furthermore, the focus on institutional capacity building and the inclusion of activities for start-up hand-holding promote participatory growth, ensuring that national research infrastructure serves broader economic and societal objectives through robust institutional oversight.



# ❖ Preparation of Draft Heritage Bye-Laws for Protected Monuments & Protected Areas of Eastern Region

This systematic engagement of Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT) as a Notified Expert Heritage Body by the National Monuments Authority (NMA), Ministry of Culture, Government of India, for drafting heritage bye-laws represents a critical investment in institutionalizing cultural heritage preservation. Expert advice to the national government would position this as a foundational strategy for conserving India's tangible cultural legacy through a structured, legally sound, and participatory regulatory framework. The delegation of this technical task to a reputed academic institution leverages specialized expertise and fosters academic-policy integration.

The meticulously designed process for preparing the bye-laws is a paradigm of governance aligned with the principles of effective, accountable, and transparent institutions. The standardized template ensures consistency and transparency, while the mandatory, time-bound multi-tiered vetting—first by the





institute's HoD, then by the ASI's Competent Authority, and finally by the NMA—creates a robust system of checks and accountability. The results-based, milestone-driven payment schedule, contingent upon certified deliverables, ensures strict financial discipline and effective use of public funds.

Furthermore, the entire workflow mandates collaboration between the expert body, the Archaeological Survey of India, and local authorities, embodying participatory and inclusive decision-making. By subjecting the final drafts to parliamentary approval, the process reinforces the highest form of public access to information and democratic oversight. This end-to-end framework not only protects national heritage but does so by strengthening the effective, accountable, and transparent institutions that are the bedrock of good governance, thereby building public trust in the state's capacity to steward the nation's cultural wealth for future generations.

# 16.3.1.2 Expert Advice to local and regional Authorities

**❖** Construction of Coastal protection work along marine drive road on NH.316 (Puri-Konark) from km 86.700 to 89.700"

This tender for consultancy services to prepare a Detailed Project Report (DPR) for coastal protection, issued by the Superintending Engineer, NH Division, Bhubaneswar (Government of Odisha), represents a critical infrastructure initiative. Expert advice to the state government would highlight this as a strategic investment in climate-resilient infrastructure, safeguarding a vital transport corridor and protecting coastal communities from erosion. The structured process for DPR preparation ensures that the subsequent construction is based on scientific soil investigation, precise surveying, and robust engineering design, leading to long-term durability and effective use of public funds.

The tender's administration is a practical model of public procurement aligned with principles of good governance. The mandatory requirement for sealed quotations, open disclosure of technical specifications, and public opening of bids in the presence of bidders enforces transparency and creates a level playing field. This competitive process fosters accountability by ensuring that selection is based on merit and quoted rates. The requirement for bidders to submit valid GST, PAN, and registration certificates acts as a filter for legitimate and effective institutions, ensuring that only qualified and compliant entities participate. This entire framework, by being publicly accessible and rule-based, builds public trust in the state's ability to manage critical infrastructure projects and deliver essential services, reinforcing the state's commitment to effective, accountable, and transparent institutions.

❖ Widening of Existing road of Kalinga Ghat in Valley side for elimination of Black Spot using innovative reinforced earth composite / hybrid system from km 86/330 to 86/615 km including reconstruction of Minor Bridge at Ch. 86/700 of NH 157"

This engagement of KIIT Consultancy Services by the Executive Engineer, NH Division, Sambalpur (Government of Odisha) for third-party vetting of a critical slope stabilization design exemplifies a model of technical governance in public infrastructure. Expert advice to the state government would highlight this as a prudent investment in public safety and asset resilience, ensuring that a high-risk project for black spot elimination is founded on robust, independently verified engineering.

The established process is a definitive benchmark for effective, accountable, and transparent institutions. The mandatory third-party review, even after the contractor's design was proof-checked by another premier institute (IIT Roorkee), creates a multi-layered system of accountability and quality assurance. Adherence to strict contractual timelines for review, as stipulated in the EPC agreement, ensures institutional discipline and prevents delays. The transparent procurement of consultancy services, with a formally communicated scope and cost, reinforces financial transparency.





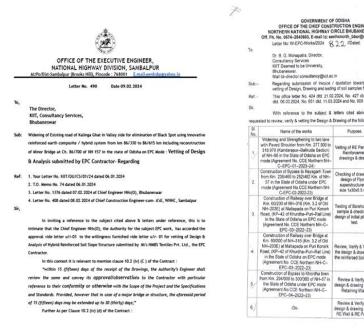
This entire framework, governed by clear contracts and technical oversight, systematically builds public trust in the state's ability to deliver complex and safe infrastructure. By institutionalizing such rigorous checks and balances, the state government demonstrates a commitment to the highest standards of effective institutions and accountability, ensuring that public works are not only completed but are also safe, durable, and worthy of public confidence.

## **❖** Various EPC Highway Infrastructure Projects (Widening, Bypasses, Railway Over Bridges)

This systematic engagement of KIIT Consultancy Services by the Chief Construction Engineer, Northern NH Circle, Bhubaneswar (Government of Odisha) for third-party vetting of designs across multiple critical infrastructure projects demonstrates a scalable model of technical governance. Expert advice to the state government would commend this as a strategic institutional mechanism to ensure the structural integrity, safety, and longevity of public infrastructure, mitigating long-term risks and liabilities.

The directive for the consultant to invoice the contractors directly, as coordinated through the government office, introduces a clear and transparent chain of responsibility for quality assurance costs. This entire framework, by systematically embedding independent expert validation into the project lifecycle, builds public trust in the state's infrastructure. It demonstrates a commitment to accountable and transparent governance, ensuring that public assets are not only built but are built correctly, safely, and to the highest standards, thereby strengthening the very foundation of effective public institutions.





# 16.3.1.3 Activities on Expert Advice in 2023

## KIIT-DU Launches School of Public Policy on Expert Guidance

In a significant step towards shaping future governance, KIIT Deemed to be University inaugurated its School of Public Policy in 2024, an initiative strongly guided by expert advice. The event was graced by Lok Sabha Speaker, Shri Om Birla, and featured insights from a distinguished assembly of national and international policymakers, academicians, and diplomats.





The school's curriculum and vision have been developed in collaboration with premier knowledge partners, the Indian Council of World Affairs and the United Nations System Staff College, embedding global expertise into its foundation. The inauguration itself served as a high-level policy dialogue, with addresses from the former Vice-President of Ecuador and the UN Resident Coordinator in India, who emphasized the institution's potential to foster tomorrow's leaders.

This activity underscores KIIT-DU's commitment to establishing centers of excellence based on strategic counsel. The School of Public Policy is poised to become a vital hub for creating citizen-centric policies, directly translating expert guidance into actionable education for a developed India.



## \* KIIT-DU Hosts High-Level Expert Workshop on Gender Mainstreaming in Healthcare

In a significant activity guided by expert advice in 2024, the Kalinga Institute of Medical Sciences (KIMS) at KIIT Deemed to be University collaborated with the Odisha Government's Department of Health and Family Welfare to organize a state-level workshop on "Gender Mainstreaming in Health."

The workshop served as a pivotal platform for expert consultation, bringing together senior health officials from the state government, faculty from KIMS, and specialists from leading UN agencies including WHO, UNICEF, and UNFPA. The collaborative sessions focused on developing actionable strategies and educational modules to integrate gender-sensitive responses into the public health system, particularly for addressing gender-based violence.

A key outcome was the formation of a core expert group tasked with compiling these insights into formal training manuals. This initiative, championed by KIIT-DU's leadership, directly translates multidisciplinary expert counsel into a concrete plan to enhance the equity and effectiveness of healthcare delivery in Odisha, aligning with global public health mandates.





# \* KIIT-DU Launches 'THRIVE' Initiative on Expert Partnership for Tribal Advancement

In a landmark activity guided by expert collaboration in 2024, KIIT Deemed to be University, along with its sister concern KISS, launched the 'THRIVE' initiative in a strategic partnership with Jhpiego, a global health expert affiliate of Johns Hopkins University.





This initiative, formalized through a new MoU, is founded on expert advice to establish two pioneering centers: the Centre for Tribal Health and Research (CTHR) and the Centre for Youth Innovation and Inclusiveness (CYII). The partnership is designed to merge global technical expertise from Jhpiego with deep community insights to create a sustainable model for tribal development.

The collaboration aims to serve as a hub for indigenous-led research and innovation, directly translating expert guidance into culturally resonant solutions. By uniting international public health leadership with local knowledge, KIIT-DU is creating an expert-driven framework to address critical health disparities and empower tribal youth, setting a replicable standard for community-centric development.



## **Second Proof** Expert Lecture Critiquing India's New Criminal Laws

In a key activity guided by expert advice in 2024, KISS, a sister concern of KIIT, organized a distinguished invited lecture on "New Criminal Law: A Critique." The event featured Dr. Satyajit Mohanty, a retired IPS officer and Adjunct Professor of Law, who provided an authoritative analysis of the major legal reforms.

The lecture served as a crucial platform for expert guidance, offering a deep dive into the practical implications of the new laws. Dr. Mohanty provided critical insights on new Acts, the use of technology in digitizing procedures, and the challenges in implementation, enriching the understanding of students and faculty.







#### **❖** KIIT-DU Convenes High-Level Expert Roundtable with UNESCO Chairs

In a significant activity guided by expert counsel in 2024, KISS, a sister concern of KIIT, hosted a high-level roundtable of UNESCO Chairs from South Asia. The event, convened by a distinguished UNESCO Chair, assembled leading academic experts from India, Sri Lanka, and Nepal, alongside senior officials from the UNESCO Regional Office.

The primary purpose of this gathering was to leverage the specialized knowledge of the UNESCO Chairs network to identify and address key regional priorities. The roundtable served as a strategic platform for expert deliberation, fostering collaborative partnerships and mobilizing academic expertise to contribute to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.





By bringing together this concentration of international thought leaders, KIIT-DU facilitated critical discussions aimed at bridging knowledge gaps and generating interdisciplinary solutions for pressing regional challenges, underscoring its commitment to advancing global goals through expert-driven dialogue.

## 16.3.2 Outreach and Capacity-Building for Policy and Law-Makers in 2024

- ❖ The KIIT School of Law demonstrated a strong commitment to outreach and capacity-building for policy and law makers by organizing high-level events that featured distinguished guests and speakers. These forums provided a vital bridge between academic research and practical policy implementation.
  - The year's activities included major conferences such as the International Symposium on Environmental Anthropology in January, the 3rd International Sustainable Cooperative Management Conference in May, and the flagship 14th International Conference on Governance, Fraud, Ethics, Sustainability and Reporting (IConGFESR) in December. These events gathered experts from around the world to deliberate on issues central to legal and governance frameworks.
  - A key highlight was the privilege for students to engage with eminent jurists like Former Supreme
    Court Justice Kurian Joseph. Furthermore, the institution facilitated critical knowledge-sharing
    sessions with seasoned practitioners, such as the webinar featuring Mrs. Amita V. Bartaria, District
    Prosecution Officer from Bhopal, who shared firsthand insights into the criminal justice system. By
    connecting students and the academic community with such high-caliber judges and serving
    officers, KIIT Law School effectively contributed to building capacity and informing the
    perspectives of future and current law makers.





#### \* KIIT Law School Creates History at 37th BCI Moot Court Competition

A recent victory at a premier national competition underscores a profound commitment to upskilling the next generation of legal professionals. The success highlights a model of capacity building designed to strengthen the foundations of justice.

The institution has made history by becoming the first of its kind to win this championship, a remarkable feat for an establishment founded in 2007. This third championship win demonstrates a sustained and effective program in building legal capacity and nurturing future advocates for justice.

This achievement is a direct result of dedicated pedagogical efforts focused on practical skills development. It stands as a testament to an ecosystem built on mentoring, rigorous training, and a deep-seated mission to foster a new generation equipped to uphold the rule of law, promote effective and accountable institutions, and ensure access to justice for all.

This milestone reinforces the continuous pursuit of excellence in shaping individuals who will contribute to building peaceful, just, and inclusive societies.









## **❖** National Conclave on Viksit Bharat@2047 Organized at KIIT-DU

A recent national conclave was organized to advance national development goals through strategic upskilling and capacity building in emerging technologies. The event centered on the critical role of innovation in fostering effective, accountable, and transparent institutions.

The conclave served as a platform to discuss how technological advancement can be harnessed to strengthen governance, promote inclusive decision-making, and ensure access to information. The discussions emphasized the necessity of building institutional capacity and equipping future leaders with the skills to navigate an evolving digital landscape, ensuring technology serves the public interest.

Speakers highlighted the dual focus of developing domestic technological capability and ensuring its application works for all citizens. A key point was the potential for such innovation to empower marginalized communities and bridge societal divides, thereby strengthening inclusion and participatory processes.

# ❖ YRC KIIT Volunteers Organizes Rally for Drug Awareness as Part of Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyan

A recent initiative saw volunteers mobilize to strengthen community resilience and promote peaceful societies. The activity focused on capacity building and upskilling participants in advocacy and public engagement to combat a critical issue undermining social justice and public health.

The rally, led by dedicated facilitators and a large team of volunteers, served as a practical exercise in fostering community awareness and access to justice-related information. Marching through public spaces, the volunteers championed slogans reinforcing the importance of the rule of law, safe communities, and healthy life choices. This direct engagement was a strategic effort to empower the public with knowledge, contributing to more effective and inclusive social institutions.

The campaign culminated with informational materials being disseminated across residential facilities, ensuring sustained awareness. This action exemplifies a commitment to building collective capacity and empowering youth as active participants in creating just, peaceful, and inclusive societies, free from threats to community well-being.













#### Grassroots Legal Upskilling: Building Capacity for the Rule of Law

A distinguished lecture centered on "Legal Empowerment through Paralegals," outlining a strategic model for upskilling and capacity building to advance access to justice. The discourse addressed the global justice crisis by positioning community paralegals as vital links between formal legal systems and the public.

The lecture framed access to justice as a fundamental human right, dependent on both the supply of fair laws and impartial institutions, and the demand for public legal knowledge. It was emphasized that true local empowerment is achieved when individuals are equipped to understand and use the law. Community paralegals were highlighted as key agents in this process, skilled in mediation, legal education, and community skill-building to foster inclusive and participatory societies.

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## **16.3.3 Participation in Government Research**

#### **❖** Policy-Focused Research in 2024

KIIT Deemed to be University (KIIT DU) has established itself as a premier institution not only in technical education but also as a vital hub for policy-focused research that directly contributes to national development goals. Its extensive research portfolio demonstrates a profound commitment to Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16, which aims to promote peaceful and inclusive societies, provide access to justice for all, and build effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels.

The projects highlighted here are just a few examples from a wide array of research initiatives at KIIT DU that are designed to inform and influence public policy. The university's interdisciplinary approach is evident in several key research areas that address the core pillars of SDG-16:





#### 1. Enhancing Participatory Governance and Social Justice through Evidence-Based Policy

A flagship initiative is the Social Impact Assessment (SIA) Study for the Dhamara Port Industrial Park. Commissioned by the State SIA Unit, this project is a critical exercise in transparent governance and social justice. By meticulously assessing the impact of land acquisition on approximately 1,807 families, KIIT DU researchers are generating essential data to ensure:

- Accountable Institutions: Holding governmental and industrial bodies accountable for fair compensation and rehabilitation.
- Inclusive Decision-Making: Providing an evidence base that incorporates the voices and vulnerabilities of affected communities into the planning process.
- Reduced Inequalities: Identifying and addressing disproportionate impacts on specific families, thereby preventing the escalation of social conflict.

This work is a direct operationalization of SDG-16 targets related to developing effective, accountable, and transparent institutions and ensuring responsive, inclusive, and participatory decision-making.

## 2. Preserving Cultural Heritage for Inclusive and Peaceful Societies

KIIT DU's recognition as a Notified Expert Heritage Body by the National Monuments Authority places it at the forefront of cultural policy. The project to prepare Draft Heritage Bye-Laws for protected monuments in Eastern India is fundamental to:

- Strong Institutional Frameworks: Creating legally sound and practical regulations for the protection of national heritage.
- Promoting Inclusive Societies: Safeguarding cultural heritage as a legacy for all citizens, fostering a shared sense of identity and peace.
- Effective Rule of Law: Providing a clear regulatory framework that balances preservation with development needs.

Furthermore, the ICSSR-funded project "Unveiling the Influence of Cultural Heritage of PVTGs..." aligns perfectly by focusing on the most marginalized communities. It aims to inform policies that ensure the retention, sustainment, and preservation of their cultural heritage, a key aspect of building inclusive and just societies.

#### 3. Informing Equitable and Effective Agricultural Policy

The ICSSR-IMPRESS project on "Climate Change Effects on Livelihoods and Adaptation Strategies..." directly feeds into SDG-16's aim to build strong institutions that serve all citizens, especially the most vulnerable. By focusing on marginal and small farmers, this research:

- Informs Pro-Poor Policy: Provides empirical data to help governmental institutions design more equitable and effective climate adaptation and agricultural support programs.
- Strengthens Local Governance: Empowers local institutions with knowledge to better support their communities in the face of environmental challenges.

## **❖** A Culture of Policy-Engaged Research

It is important to note that the projects detailed above are part of a larger, strategic focus at KIIT DU. There are many such projects focusing on policy research across diverse schools and disciplines. From defense and strategic studies (e.g., the project on naval warfare systems with IIT Guwahati) to rural management and public health, the university consistently engages in research that bridges the gap between academia and governance. This robust portfolio of policy-focused work, often funded by national and international bodies like the ICSSR and various government ministries, underscores KIIT DU's role as a key "think-tank" and knowledge partner in the nation's development journey.





# IIT GUWAHATI TECHNOLOGY INNOVATION AND DEVELOPMENT

FOUNDATION
(A COMPANY INCORPORATED UNDER SECTION 8 OF THE COMPANIES ACT 2013)
Research Building, IIT GUWAHATI, GUWAHATI- 781039 (ASSAM)
CORPORATE IDENTITY NUMBER: U73100A52020NPL020425

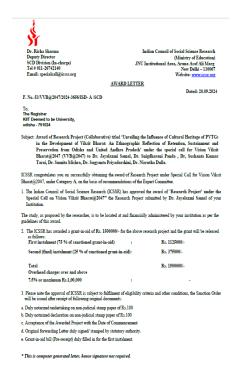
Date: 18-10-2024 Project Director TIH IIT Guwahati, Sub: Sanction letter for the Project "Autonomous Underwater decoy confusion and torpedo guidance system for enhanced naval warfare" I am happy to inform you that your Project Proposal submitted to IIT Guwahati Technology Innovation and Development Foundation has been approved for funding under the SCSP Category. Your Project No is TIH/TD/1014. The details of the funding are given in the following table.

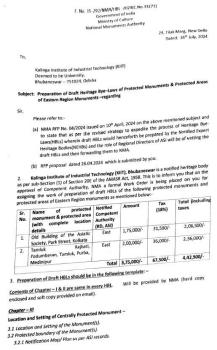
			Other	Grant in Lakhs (Rs)			
Title of the Project	PI	Co PI	(Manpower)	Recurring	Non- Recurring Mini- equipment	Total	
Autonomous Underwater decoy confusion and torpedo guidance system for enhanced naval warfare	Dr. Pramod Malik	Dr. Anish Pandey Dr. S.K. Dwivedy		7	0		
Total				7	0		

- 1. Please find attached the Draft copy of the MOU which will be signed between your Institute and IITGTIDF Kindly furnish this as soon as possible in stamp paper and send 2 copies of the MOU for the signature from TIH side. Fund will be transferred to your institute after signing of the MOU.
- We will have the review meeting every 3 months. Further funding will be provided if your progress is found to be satisfactory. The tenure of the project will be 2 years.
- 3. Please acknowledge TIH IIT Guwahati for any publication, patents, licensing etc.









JNU Institutional Area, Aruna Asaf Ali Marg New Delhi – 110067 /ebsite: www.icssr.org SANCTION ORDER F.No. IMPRESS/P2161/306/2018-19/ICSSR Bhubaneshwar - 751024, Odisha Sanction of Impactful Policy Research in Social Science (IMPRESS) Research Project entitled "Climate Change Effects on Livelihoods and Adaptation Strategies: An Empirical Inquest with Special Reference to Marginal and Small Farmers in Odisha)" under domain Agriculture and Rural Development to Dr. Damodiar Jena 1. The Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR) considered the above Impactful Polic Research in Social Science (IMPRESS) research project submitted by Dr. Damodar Jena, Assistant Professor, KIIT School of Rural Management (KSRM), Campus 7, KIIT Deemed to be University, Bhubaneshwar – 751024, Odisha. Co-Project KITT Deemed to be University, Bhubaneshwar – 731024, Odisha, co-rogez Directors of the rusiya re INI.

The study, as proposed by the researcher, is to be located at and financially administered by your institution as per the guidelines of this award.

The CSSR has participated grant-haid of Rs. 14,90,000/- (Rupees Fourteen lish's and Ninety Thousand only) for the above research project and the grant will be released as \* ICSSR would publish it subject to recommendation by the expert and relevant Committees for the purpose, from the overall budget, so to be retained by the ICSSR.

"\*will be released on successful completion of project after evaluation.

(The break-up budget approved by the ICSSR of Rs.14,90,000/- is enclosed.)

The First installment of the approved grant-in-aid will be released after receiving the grant-in-aid bill duly filled in, stamped and signed by the Project Director as well as the affiliating organization.

Unveiling the Influence of Cultural Heritage of PVTGs in the Development of Viksit Bharat: An Ethnographic Reflection of Retention, Sustainment and Preservation from Odisha and United Andhra Pradesh

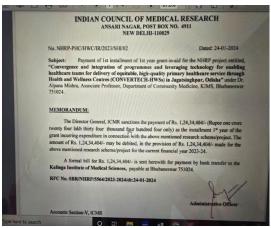
This critical ethnography examines the link between the cultural heritage of PVTGs in Odisha and Andhra Pradesh and equitable development. The research aims to generate evidence-based policy recommendations to ensure these communities' cultural assets are integrated into national development strategies, strengthening social cohesion an access to justice.





❖ Convergence and Integration of Programmes and Leveraging Technology for Enabling Healthcare Teams for Delivery of Equitable, High-Quality Primary Healthcare Service through Health and Wellness Centres (CONVERTECH-HWCs) in Jagatsinghpur, Odisha

This research investigates how converging health programs and integrating technology at Health and Wellness Centres in Jagatsinghpur, Odisha, can improve primary healthcare. It aims to generate evidence on using governance and digital tools to reduce fragmentation, ensure accountability, and extend quality care to marginalized communities. The study will produce actionable, scalable policy recommendations to empower local institutions, foster inclusive decision-making, and institutionalize equitable, transparent, and effective primary healthcare for all.



#### Green India Mission and its Livelihood Association With Forest Dwellers

This research evaluates the Green India Mission's governance in the Balangir Forest Division, focusing on livelihood linkages for forest-dwelling communities. It critically assesses the Van Sanrakshan Samitis (VSS) as local institutions for participatory management, examining their effectiveness in enabling inclusive decision-making and equitable benefit-sharing. The study investigates the convergence between ecological restoration and socio-economic well-being, generating evidence on the inclusivity and accountability of implementation models. The findings aim to inform stronger policy frameworks that secure community rights, strengthen participatory governance, and foster transparent, accountable local institutions for both environmental and societal well-being.







# Consultancy Services for Retraining and Rehabilitation of BSNL VRS/VSS Employees under DPE NSDC CRR 4.0 Programme

This ongoing policy-focused initiative, commissioned by the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC), addresses the critical need for just, inclusive, and sustainable economic transitions for public sector employees. The project provides comprehensive retraining and rehabilitation for 540 BSNL employees under the Voluntary Retirement and Separation Schemes, ensuring their meaningful reintegration into the workforce through structured skill development programs aligned with national Skill India guidelines.

The program strengthens accountable and responsive labor governance by implementing an institutional framework for workforce reskilling during industrial restructuring.

## 16.3.4 A Neutral Platform for Dialogue in 2024

In 2024, KIIT unequivocally cemented its reputation as a trusted and neutral venue for high-level discourse, bringing together a diverse spectrum of national and global leaders to address pressing challenges. The year's engagements highlight this unique stature:

## 1. Political & Diplomatic Conferences:

- The inauguration of the KIIT School of Public Policy became a significant national event, graced by:
  - o Shri Om Birla, Honourable Speaker of the Lok Sabha.
  - o Shri Raghubar Das, Honourable Governor of Odisha.
  - o Ms. Surama Padhy, Honourable Speaker of the Odisha Legislative Assembly.
  - o Shri K. V. Singhdeo, Honourable Deputy Chief Minister of Odisha.
  - o Ms. Aparajita Sarangi, Member of Parliament.

This cross-party participation underscores KIIT's role as a unifying platform for governance dialogue.

#### 2. Distinguished International Engagement:

- The campus hosted global leaders, including:
  - His Excellency Dansa Kourouma, President of the National Transition Council of Guinea, who
    was the Republic Day Chief Guest and received the KISS Humanitarian Award.
  - o His Excellency Ganbold Dambajay, Ambassador of Mongolia to India.
  - o High Commissioner Anil Sooklal of South Africa to India.

## 3. Strategic Policy and Security Dialogues:

- KIIT facilitated critical discussions on national security and governance through:
  - The launch of the Centre for Defence and Strategic Studies (CDSS) by Major General Nilendra Kumar, Judge Advocate General of the Indian Army, and Brig. Dr. L.C. Patnaik, former Defence Advisor.
  - Hosting the 14th International Conference on Governance, Fraud, Ethics & Sustainability with Shri Ateesh Kumar Singh, Joint Secretary, Ministry of MSME, Govt. of India.

## 4. Collaborative State-Level Policy Initiatives:

• The university partnered with the Government of Odisha on a crucial State-Level Workshop on "Gender Mainstreaming in Health," involving senior bureaucrats like Ms. Aswathy S., Commissioner-cum-Secretary, and other Directors from the Health Department.

Through these multifaceted engagements, KIIT has proven itself to be an indispensable arena for fostering inclusive, impactful, and neutral dialogue on the world stage.

























#### **❖** An Institutional Exemplar in 2024

KIIT Deemed to be University has shown an unmatched dedication to the ideals of SDG 16 via its many and aggressive efforts in 2024. KIIT has demonstrated that it is more than just an educational institution by promoting academic freedom, guaranteeing financial openness, delivering knowledgeable governmental advice, carrying out pertinent policy research, and providing a neutral forum for critical discussion. It is a strong, equitable, and open microcosm of the society it seeks to create. In 2024, KIIT has aggressively cultivated a governance mindset that promotes a more equitable, peaceful, and institutionally robust society in addition to providing education to students.

## **❖** International Symposium Bridges Environment and Policy

In a significant stride towards Sustainable Development Goal 16, which champions strong, inclusive institutions, the KIIT School of Law recently hosted an International Symposium on New Dimensions in Environmental Anthropology. The event fostered a vital global dialogue, uniting academics, government officials from the Ministry of Culture and the Odisha Forest Department, and international experts from four continents.

This collaborative platform is a practical embodiment of building effective, accountable, and transparent institutions (SDG Target 16.6). By integrating diverse perspectives—from indigenous knowledge to state-level policy—the symposium worked to bridge the gap between grassroots environmental understanding and top-down governance. The presence of senior government officials as active participants ensured that academic insights could directly inform public policy and environmental regulation.

The symposium's powerful concluding consensus—that environment and development share an interdependent relationship—provides a crucial framework for just and participatory decision-making (SDG Target 16.7). By fostering this multi-stakeholder approach, the event strengthened the institutional capacity needed to create and implement equitable environmental policies, ensuring that the pursuit of sustainable development is both inclusive and grounded in global knowledge.





#### ❖ Guinean Leader Honoured for Humanitarian Commitment

In a significant event bridging international diplomacy and humanitarian ideals, Dr. Dansa Kourouma, President of the National Transition Council of Guinea, was bestowed with the prestigious KISS Humanitarian Award for 2019. The award was presented by Dr. Achyuta Samanta, Founder of KIIT & KISS.

This recognition aligns closely with the principles of Sustainable Development Goal 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions), which promotes inclusive societies, access to justice for all, and effective, accountable institutions at all levels. As a key figure in Guinea's transitional governance, Dr. Kourouma's work is central to building such institutions.





In his acceptance speech, Dr. Kourouma highlighted the profound role of education as "the most powerful weapon in changing the world," a cornerstone for sustaining peace and fostering development. He praised KISS, a sister concern of KIIT, for its embodiment of humanism and compassion.

The award ceremony, attended by diplomats and academic leaders, underscores the importance of global partnerships in advancing the shared goals of peace, strong governance, and humanitarian service.



# Championing Equality and Justice: Bill Gates Honoured for Humanitarian Work that Builds a More Equitable World

In a testament to the power of philanthropy to drive global change, leading philanthropist and Microsoft co-founder Mr. Bill Gates was honoured with the KISS Humanitarian Award 2023. The award, conferred by KISS, a sister concern of KIIT, recognizes his unparalleled contributions to enhancing global health, education, and addressing climate change—all critical to reducing global inequality.

This recognition resonates deeply with the aims of Sustainable Development Goal 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions), which advocates for inclusive societies and reduced inequalities. Mr. Gates's work, particularly through the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, addresses the root causes of injustice by expanding access to vital resources like healthcare and knowledge.

During the ceremony, Mr. Gates highlighted the importance of a community-first approach to education and civic engagement, principles essential for building strong, participatory societies. His engagement on gender equality with a KISS alumna further underscored the award's focus on fostering inclusive dialogue.

By honouring Mr. Gates, the KISS Humanitarian Award spotlights how transformative humanitarian action, driven by technology and equity, is fundamental to creating a more just and peaceful world.







#### **❖** PM's Principal Secretary Engages with KIIT & KISS Students

Dr. P. K. Mishra, the Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, visited the campuses of KIIT and KISS, a sister concern of KIIT, emphasizing the critical role of education in building a just and inclusive society aligned with the Sustainable Development Goal 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions).

During his interaction, Dr. Mishra highlighted the importance of the National Education Policy (NEP) in developing an equitable education system, praising the institutes for their commendable efforts in inclusivity and the preservation of tribal culture. His focus on empowering women and integrating students from tribal, backward, and hilly regions underscores the SDG 16 principle of fostering inclusive institutions at all levels.

Dr. Mishra urged students to be architects of a 'Viksit Bharat' by championing self-reliance and actively working to reduce societal ills like corruption, casteism, and communalism. By advocating for a shift from seeking jobs to creating them through entrepreneurship, he highlighted the need for economic and institutional frameworks that provide equal opportunity for all, a cornerstone of strong and effective institutions.



#### \* Regional UNESCO Chairs Roundtable

KISS, a sister concern of KIIT, recently strengthened its role in advancing global cooperation by hosting a significant roundtable of UNESCO Chairs from South Asia. The event, convened in collaboration with the UNESCO Regional Office in New Delhi, aimed to bolster the network of higher education institutions and discuss key regional priorities.

This gathering directly supports **Sustainable Development Goal 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions)**, which promotes effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels. The UNESCO Chairs Programme is a cornerstone of this effort, designed to bridge global knowledge gaps and mobilize academic expertise to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

By facilitating this dialogue among 16 Chairs from India, Sri Lanka, and Nepal, KISS helped reinforce the international academic partnerships that are vital for strengthening higher education systems. These collaborations pool resources and foster interdisciplinary research, acting as a global laboratory of ideas to build more inclusive, knowledgeable, and resilient societies.







# **❖** Building accountable institutions for a sustainable future: 3rd International Sustainable Cooperative Management & Social Conference

In a significant contribution to Sustainable Development Goal 16, which promotes peace, justice, and strong institutions, the School of Law at KIIT University co-organized the 3rd International Sustainable Cooperative Management & Social Conference on May 26 and 28, 2024. Held virtually in collaboration with global academic networks, the conference served as a vital platform for strengthening the pillars of accountable governance worldwide.

The event, spearheaded by Dr. Pratiti Nayak of KIIT and Prof. Kiymet Caliyurt of Trakya University, Turkey, convened over 50 presenters to address critical themes of governance, ethics, and social responsibility. By focusing on areas such as AI, tax issues, and machine learning within the context of environmental and economic sustainability, the conference directly advanced the targets of SDG 16. It fostered the development of effective, accountable, and transparent institutions (Target 16.6) and promoted inclusive decision-making by integrating diverse, international research perspectives.

This global knowledge exchange is essential for building a framework of ethical standards and robust legal mechanisms. The interdisciplinary dialogue ensures that the evolution of technology and economics is guided by principles of integrity and social responsibility, thereby creating a more just and sustainable future for all.





# ❖ A Landmark for Global Partnerships: KIIT DU Awarded Prestigious UN ECOSOC Special Consultative Status

In a significant endorsement of its global impact, KIIT has been granted the prestigious Special Consultative Status by the United Nations Economic and Social Council (UN ECOSOC). This rare honour, awarded to only 19 organizations worldwide this year, recognizes the university's substantial contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

This status is a powerful catalyst for **SDG 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions)**, as it empowers KIIT to participate directly in UN forums, contribute to policy dialogues, and help build more effective, accountable, and inclusive global institutions.

The achievement is further amplified by two key partnerships. KIIT has signed an MoU with UN Volunteers, enabling students to gain professional experience in international development—a first for any private university in South Asia. Simultaneously, a collaboration with the American Council of Young Political Leaders (ACYPL) will foster international understanding and diplomacy. KISS, a sister concern of KIIT, which has held the same UN ECOSOC status since 2015, is also a partner in this initiative.

Together, these milestones position KIIT and KISS as hubs for cultivating global citizenship and strengthening the multilateral partnerships essential for a peaceful and sustainable future.





#### KIIT Pioneers Cyber Security Legal Education

In a critical step towards strengthening the institutions of justice as envisioned in Sustainable Development Goal 16, the KIIT School of Law convened a high-level workshop on March 9, 2024, to integrate a dedicated Cyber Security stream into its <u>B.Sc.</u> LL.B. (Hons.) program. This pioneering initiative directly addresses the modern challenges to peace, justice, and strong institutions posed by the digital realm.

The workshop brought together an eminent panel of experts, including senior officials from the Indian Navy, global firms like Accenture and PwC, and leading academicians. This collaboration underscores the multifaceted approach required to build legal frameworks capable of combating digital threats. By embedding cybersecurity into legal education, KIIT is proactively building a new generation of legal professionals equipped with the specialized knowledge to protect digital infrastructure, safeguard citizen data, and prosecute cybercrimes.

This curriculum development is a foundational investment in SDG Target 16.3, which promotes the rule of law, and Target 16.4, which aims to significantly reduce illicit flows. As crime increasingly moves online, the capacity of legal institutions to respond is paramount. This program will produce graduates who can fortify national security, uphold digital rights, and ensure that the rule of law evolves to meet the challenges of the 21st century, thereby creating a more secure and just digital society for all.

A workshop to discuss the details for introducing a new stream - "Cyber Security" in the integrated B.Sc. LL.B. (Hons.) course at the KIIT School of Law on March 9, 2024 from 10:00 am onwards. The following experts shall interact with the Law School faculty concerned.
Professor (Dr.) M.K. Bhandari , Founder, Director, GALTER
Mr. Niraj Kumar ,Managing Director , Accenture
Mr. Rodney D. Ryder , Scriboard
Professor (Dr.) Subhajit Basu , University of Leeds
Mr. Ashok Dhaka, Director (Cybersecurity& Cyber Forensics, Indian Navy)
Mr. Debasis Nayak , Director , Asian School of Cyber Laws
Dr. Atul Kumar Pandey, Professor, NLIU, Bhopal.
Ms. Pakhi Garg, Advisor & IPR Chief of World Cyber Security Forum (WCSF).
Mr. Ashootosh Chand - Digital & Emerging Technologies, PwC India

#### **❖** KIIT School of Law Initiative Marks World AIDS Day

The NSS unit and Centre for Human Rights Law at KIIT School of Law (KSOL) marked World AIDS Day 2024 with a grassroots initiative in Pathargadia Village, Chandaka. This outreach camp underscores the critical link between health justice, access to information, and strong community institutions.

Students and faculty members engaged directly with the community through door-to-door visits, distributing pamphlets to disseminate crucial information about HIV/AIDS. This action is a practical application of fostering participatory and inclusive societies (SDG Target 16.7) by ensuring that marginalized communities have access to essential health knowledge.

By empowering villagers with information, the initiative strengthens their ability to claim their right to health, a cornerstone of just and peaceful societies. Such efforts demonstrate how legal and educational institutions can be powerful catalysts for community empowerment, ensuring that no one is left behind in the pursuit of public health and social justice.













# ❖ Forging Ethical Frameworks for the Digital Age: 14th International Conference on Governance, Fraud, Ethics, Sustainability and Reporting (IConGFESR - 2024)

In a significant contribution to Sustainable Development Goal 16, the School of Law at KIIT University successfully hosted the 14th International Conference on Governance, Fraud, Ethics, Sustainability, and Reporting on December 21-22, 2024. Centered on the theme "The Digital Shift: AI as a Path to Sustainable Business and Legal Transformation," the event served as a critical platform for building the effective, accountable, and transparent institutions that SDG 16 mandates.

The conference united global scholars, legal luminaries, and key government officials, including a Joint Secretary from the Ministry of MSME, Government of India. This multi-stakeholder dialogue is essential for developing the ethical frameworks and robust legal mechanisms needed to govern emerging technologies like AI and digitalization. By focusing on interdisciplinary solutions, the conference addressed the urgent need to align rapid technological advancement with principles of good governance, fraud prevention, and corporate ethics.

Such collaborations are fundamental to strengthening global institutions. The insights generated provide a blueprint for policymakers and corporate leaders to ensure that the digital transformation fosters inclusive and just societies, thereby cementing the rule of law in the new digital economy and creating a sustainable future built on trust and accountability.







#### KISS a sister concern of KIIT, Hosts Lecture on New Criminal Reforms

In an initiative directly aligned with **Sustainable Development Goal 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions)**, the Internal Quality Assurance Cell of KISS, a sister concern of KIIT, organized a distinguished lecture on "New Criminal Law: A Critique."

The event provided a critical platform to discuss major legal reforms, including the use of technology in digitizing processes, the basis for gathering evidence, and the rights of victims. The lecture delved into the practical challenges of implementing new laws, offering students and faculty deep insights into the evolving landscape of justice and rule of law in the country.

By educating future leaders on these significant legal changes, KISS reinforces its commitment to fostering strong, just, and accountable institutions, which is a cornerstone of a peaceful and inclusive society.





## ❖ Bridging the Digital Justice Gap: Cyber Awareness for an Inclusive Society

In a pivotal step towards achieving Sustainable Development Goal 16, which promotes just, peaceful, and inclusive societies, the Centre of Cyber Law and Cyber Security at KIIT organized a TechTalk for students from its sister concern, KISS. The event, held on December 3, 2024, focused on sensitizing students to the dangers of cyber fraud.

This initiative directly strengthens institutions and promotes access to justice (SDG Target 16.3) by empowering a often-marginalized community with the knowledge to protect themselves in the digital space. By delivering the talk in Odia, the volunteers ensured the information was accessible and inclusive, fostering participatory education (SDG Target 16.7).

Equipping these students with cyber awareness is a crucial form of protection, reducing their vulnerability to digital crime and exploitation. Such efforts build trust in digital systems and empower citizens, forming the bedrock of a stronger, more just society where everyone can participate safely.









## Dr. Achyuta Samanta Appointed Senior Adviser to Guinea

In a significant development for international cooperation, eminent educationist Dr. Achyuta Samanta, hon'ble Founder KIIT & KISS has been appointed as the Senior Adviser to the President of the National Transition Council of Guinea, Dr. Dansa Kourouma. This prestigious role was formally approved by the Guinean cabinet.

The appointment directly supports the aims of **Sustainable Development Goal 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions)**, which emphasizes building effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions at all levels. Dr. Samanta will provide honorary guidance on key areas of education, health, and economic development, sharing best practices to contribute to Guinea's nation-building efforts.

This international advisory role underscores the global recognition of the transformative model of education and social development pioneered by Dr. Samanta through KIIT and KISS, a sister concern of KIIT. It marks a step forward in fostering the cross-border partnerships and knowledge-sharing essential for building stronger, more resilient societies.

# **❖** Lecture Champions Legal Empowerment for All

A distinguished invited lecture on "Legal Empowerment through Paralegals" was recently organized, highlighting a critical pathway to achieving Sustainable Development Goal 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions), which promotes equal access to justice for all.

The lecture, delivered by Professor Margaret L. Phillips from Daemen University, USA, focused on the global crisis in access to justice. She defined it as a combination of the "supply" of fair laws and the "demand" created by people's ability to exercise their rights.

A key solution presented was the role of Community Paralegals. These individuals provide mediation, legal education, and community skill-building, empowering ordinary people, particularly in marginalized and indigenous communities, to know and use the law. The event concluded with a forward-looking proposal to establish a Community Paralegal Program, a concrete step towards making justice not just a right, but a reality for all.





# **\*** Expanding the Frontiers of Justice: KIIT faculty member Pioneers Animal Rights Law Education

In an initiative that broadens the scope of justice and strengthens legal institutions, Dr. Lipsa Dash of KIIT School of Law was selected for a prestigious Law Lecturers' Workshop in Animal Rights Law, organized by the Cambridge Centre for Animal Rights Law. This engagement aligns with Sustainable Development Goal 16, which advocates for peaceful, just, and inclusive societies.





The workshop, hosted at NALSAR, Hyderabad, equipped participants with the pedagogical tools and resources to develop comprehensive courses on this emerging legal frontier. By integrating Animal Rights Law into the curriculum, KIIT is taking a progressive step to build more effective and accountable legal frameworks that extend protection beyond humans.

This effort strengthens institutions by educating future lawyers and policymakers to consider a wider spectrum of rights and welfare. It represents a crucial expansion of the rule of law, fostering a more inclusive and ethically grounded legal system for all beings, and paving the way for a more just society.





## **\*** KIIT Students Unite for Justice and Equality on Women's Equality Day

Aligning with the principles of Sustainable Development Goal 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions), which promotes inclusive societies and equal access to justice for all, the Youth Red Cross (YRC) of KIIT University recently marked Women's Equality Day with a powerful demonstration.

YRC volunteers gathered to form a human chain, standing in solidarity for the cause of gender equality and justice. Their rallying cries for a "safe world for women" and demands for justice highlighted a collective commitment to combating violence and discrimination, key barriers to achieving peaceful and inclusive societies.

The event underscored the pivotal role of youth and educational institutions in advancing gender equality—a fundamental aspect of building effective, just, and accountable institutions for a sustainable future. This act of solidarity reinforces the ongoing mission to ensure dignity, fairness, and freedom for women and girls everywhere.







#### ❖ KIIT Law School's Pro Bono Camp Empowers Rural Community

In a direct enactment of Sustainable Development Goal 16, which promotes peace, justice, and strong institutions, the KIIT School of Law's Legal Aid Society organized a transformative pro bono camp in Salepur, Tentol village on March 22, 2024. This initiative directly addresses the core target of ensuring equal access to justice for all (SDG 16.3), bringing legal aid directly to a rural community in Cuttack district, Odisha.

Facilitated by alumnus Sidhant Mohanty, the camp saw faculty and students provide free legal counsel to villagers, addressing day-to-day legal disputes and acknowledging them with relevant laws and statutes. For the residents, who previously had little knowledge of where to seek reliable legal guidance, the camp offered a crucial ray of hope and a tangible path toward resolving their issues.

Beyond immediate aid, the camp served as a vital institution-building exercise. It strengthened the link between academic legal training and grassroots community needs, fostering trust in legal processes. For the students, it was an invaluable lesson in client interaction, empathy, and the practical application of the law, cultivating the next generation of legally conscious citizens. By taking justice to the doorstep of the marginalized, KIIT Law School is helping to build a more inclusive and effective legal system, one community at a time.



#### Harnessing AI for Transparent Governance: National Conclave Charts Path for Viksit Bharat

A National Conclave on Viksit Bharat@2047, focusing on the theme "Making AI in India & Making AI Work for India," was recently organized, highlighting technology's crucial role in advancing Sustainable Development Goal 16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions).

The event underscored Artificial Intelligence's potential to foster economic growth, social progress, and, critically, good governance. By discussing how AI can be leveraged for transparent and efficient governance, the conclave addressed the core of SDG 16, which promotes effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions.

Speakers emphasized that the successful implementation of AI depends on building robust partnerships between government, industry, and communities. This collaborative approach is fundamental to ensuring that technological advancement strengthens institutional integrity and public trust, key pillars for a developed India by 2047. The release of an edited research book further cemented the commitment to knowledge-sharing for nation-building.









## ❖ Upholding Safe and Inclusive Institutions: Campus Takes Stand Against Ragging

In a firm commitment to fostering a secure and respectful academic environment, the university community recently observed Anti-Ragging Day and Anti-Ragging Week. The initiative, featuring induction programs and an oath-taking ceremony, reinforced the collective resolve to maintain a campus free from harassment.

The awareness drive highlighted the serious legal and disciplinary consequences of ragging, aligning with national regulations. It focused on cultivating a compassionate and respectful campus culture, underscoring the detrimental effects of ragging on students' physical and mental well-being. Students actively participated, pledging to promote empathy and inclusiveness.

This comprehensive effort underscores the ongoing mission to ensure the institution remains a safe and welcoming place for all, demonstrating how educational environments are fundamental in building peaceful and just communities.







# Cultivating Inclusive Campuses: KISS, a sister concern of KIIT, Honored for Mental Health and Wellbeing Initiatives

KISS, a sister concern of KIIT, has been honored with the prestigious Diamond Band in the Mental Health and Wellbeing Rankings, recognizing its exceptional commitment to fostering a supportive and nurturing campus environment.





This accolade highlights the institution's dedicated efforts to create safe, inclusive spaces where students, faculty, and staff can thrive without fear or stigma. Key initiatives such as a robust mentor-mentee system and comprehensive measures for mental health underscore a foundational commitment to building a just and supportive academic community.

The recognition reflects a core institutional value of prioritizing the holistic wellbeing of every individual, reinforcing the role of educational environments in developing peaceful, inclusive, and strong communities for all.

# Dr. Achyuta Samanta Appointed as Senior Adviser to the President of National Transition Council, Guinea

Eminent educationist Dr. Achyuta Samanta, Hon'ble Founder KIIT & KISS has been appointed as Senior Adviser to the President of Guinea's National Transition Council, Dr. Dansa Kourouma. This significant appointment, approved by the Guinean cabinet, marks an important step in international cooperation.

The appointment follows Dr. Kourouma's visit to KIIT and KISS, a sister concern of KIIT, where he witnessed firsthand the transformative educational and social initiatives pioneered by Dr. Samanta. Impressed by this model, Dr. Kourouma extended the invitation for guidance.

In this honorary role, Dr. Samanta will provide counsel on education, health, and economic development, sharing best practices to support Guinea's progress. This cross-border collaboration highlights how knowledge sharing and international partnerships can contribute to effective governance and sustainable development.

## ❖ Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla Inaugurates KIIT School of Public Policy

The KIIT School of Public Policy was officially inaugurated, marking a significant step toward strengthening governance frameworks and fostering inclusive development. During the inauguration, the emphasis was placed on creating citizen-centric policies that ensure equal rights and involve all stakeholders in the decision-making process.

The speaker highlighted that well-drafted public policy forms the foundation of a strong nation, noting that India's democratic diversity is its greatest strength. The new school aims to shape future leaders and develop policies that promote transparency and accountability.

With knowledge partnerships from prominent national and international organizations, the school will offer a Master Program focused on creating policies that serve the people. This initiative reinforces the critical role of education in building effective, accountable institutions that work for the benefit of all citizens.







# ❖ YRC KIIT Volunteers Organizes Rally for Drug Awareness as Part of Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyan

In a vibrant display of civic engagement, YRC KIIT volunteers recently organized a drug awareness rally as part of the nationwide Nasha Mukt Bharat Abhiyan. The event saw 80 dedicated volunteers marching from KIMS Hospital to KIIT Square, turning streets into platforms for change.

The air echoed with powerful slogans such as "Say no to drugs, say yes to life" and "Choose passion, not addiction" as volunteers engaged with the public to highlight the devastating impact of substance abuse. This initiative demonstrates how youth-led action can strengthen community health and safety.

By raising awareness about drug prevention, the rally contributed to creating safer environments and promoting social justice – essential pillars for building peaceful, inclusive societies where every individual can thrive without the threat of addiction.





## ❖ A Groundbreaking Partnership for Tribal Empowerment and Inclusive Development

A transformative new partnership was launched on October 3rd, 2024. The 'Tribal Health Research Innovation & Vocational Empowerment' (THRIVE) initiative unites KIIT, its sister concern KISS, and the global health organization Jhpiego.

This collaboration establishes two pioneering centres: the Centre for Tribal Health and Research (CTHR) and the Centre for Youth Innovation and Inclusiveness (CYII). These hubs are designed to champion indigenous-led research, preserve cultural heritage, and empower tribal youth. By uniting traditional knowledge with scientific innovation, THRIVE aims to create sustainable, culturally resonant solutions to critical health and social challenges.

The initiative embodies SDG 16's targets of developing effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions. It ensures that tribal communities are not merely beneficiaries but active architects of their future. As Debora Bossemeyer of Jhpiego stated, this partnership creates a "model of change," fostering a platform where tribal youth can drive solution goals in health and education.

By focusing on local capacity building and culturally-sensitive approaches, THRIVE strengthens participatory decision-making and social inclusion for marginalized populations. This partnership stands as a powerful example of how multi-stakeholder collaboration can build stronger, more just, and inclusive societies, empowering a healthier and more confident future for tribal communities.









## Celebrating Inclusive Cultural Leadership: An Intercultural Dialogue

Aligning with the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goal 16, which promotes peaceful and inclusive societies, a significant event titled "Inclusive Cultural Leadership: An Intercultural Dialogue" was hosted on 14th November 2024. The dialogue, part of the Kalinga Conversations project, brought together thought leaders, academicians, and changemakers to explore the critical role of intercultural exchange in building global understanding.

Chaired by Hon'ble Pro-Chancellor Prof. Amareswar Galla, the discussion emphasized how inclusivity and cultural dialogue are foundational to fostering harmony. The event featured addresses from prominent figures, including Prof. (Dr.) Deepak Kumar Behera and Prof. Bishop D. B. Jones from Harvard University, highlighting the global relevance of the conversation.

This initiative serves as a practical embodiment of SDG 16's targets, particularly those advocating for effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions. By creating a platform for diverse voices and promoting participatory decision-making, the dialogue strengthens the framework for just and peaceful societies. It underscores the necessity of integrating diverse cultural perspectives into leadership and public discourse.

The collaboration exemplifies a commitment to reducing inequalities and building strong institutions where every voice is heard. Such intercultural dialogues are crucial steps towards a more just and inclusive world, demonstrating how academic institutions can be powerful catalysts for achieving the principles of peace and justice outlined in the global goals.





# ❖ Workshop on "Gender Mainstreaming in Health" at KIIT

In a significant stride towards achieving the targets of Sustainable Development Goal 16, which promotes peaceful, just, and inclusive societies, the Department of Community Medicine at KIMS, in collaboration with the Department of Health and Family Welfare, Government of Odisha, organized a state-level workshop on "Gender Mainstreaming in Health."

Recognizing gender-based violence as a critical public health issue, the workshop brought together senior government officials, health directors, and representatives from UN agencies. This multi-stakeholder collaboration is a practical step towards building effective, accountable, and inclusive institutions. The session focused on essential laws, SDG alignment, and gender-responsive budgeting, aiming to integrate these principles into the core of public health systems.

The workshop's outcomes directly contribute to ensuring equal access to justice for all. By developing educational and operational manuals for healthcare providers, the initiative strengthens the state's capacity to support survivors of violence effectively. The formation of a core group to compile modules ensures the sustainability of this effort, embedding gender sensitivity into public health policy and practice.





This initiative exemplifies how strong institutional partnerships are crucial for upholding justice and equality. By equipping its health system to address gender-based violence proactively, Odisha is strengthening its institutions to better serve and protect all its citizens, marking a pivotal move towards a more just and inclusive society.





# Strengthening Institutions for Peace and Justice: KIIT Launches Centre for Defence and Strategic Studies

In a significant stride towards upholding the principles of Sustainable Development Goal 16, which promotes peace, justice, and strong institutions, the School of Law at KIIT University inaugurated the Centre for Defence and Strategic Studies (CDSS) on November 28, 2024. The establishment of this pioneering centre marks a critical investment in research and education focused on the legal and policy frameworks underpinning national and global security.

Inaugurated by senior dignitaries including Major General Nilendra Kumar and Brig. Dr. L.C. Patnaik, the CDSS is poised to analyze the intricate relationship between defence, law, and society. By fostering rigorous academic inquiry into these domains, the centre directly contributes to building more effective, accountable, and transparent institutions (SDG Target 16.6). Its work will equip future leaders and policymakers with the knowledge to navigate complex security challenges within a framework that prioritizes the rule of law.

The concurrent launch of a scholarly book on international relations further enriches this mission. The CDSS embodies a proactive approach to strengthening the foundations of peace and justice. By generating informed discourse and strategic insights, the centre will serve as a vital institution for promoting a more secure and governed world, aligning academic excellence with the urgent need for stable and just societies.







# **ART OF GIVING**

Giving education to the deprived is like giving sight to the blind -Achyuta Samanta

# PHILOSOPHY OF LIFE

'Art of Giving' is a not-for-profit initiative for spreading, supporting and promoting the practice of giving around the world. It is based on the philosophy of life of **Prof. Achyuta Samanta**, who has struggled through an experience of poverty, hunger, humiliation in receiving and pleasure in giving from his childhood. He gives the credit of all his success to 'Art of Giving' and has been working relentlessly to achieve zero poverty, zero hunger and zero illiteracy since 1987.



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