

Community Activities @NIST

“So long as the millions live in hunger and ignorance,
I hold every person a traitor who,
having been educated at their expense,
pays not the least heed to them!”

Swami Vivekananda

www.nist.edu



Diganta School

In its relentless journey in making the society better and In line with its belief in the adage “Giving education to a deprived child is like giving sight to the blind,” NIST has taken up the role of the sponsor-patron to the residential school Diganta, a free school for tribal children run by Sankalp, the NGO based in Patrakana, Niali in the district of Cuttack.

The primary objective of starting this school is social justice. It is established in a very beautiful and peaceful atmosphere on the banks of Chhinda River, with an aim to educate, and create/facilitate opportunity for employment/self-employment of the tribal children who are neglected, helpless and poverty stricken in the society. Diganta is presently home to 300 children and has created the infrastructure to eventually host 1000 children.

Students and faculty of NIST contribute financially as well as spend time to the students and train the teachers of Diganta.

Facilities at Diganta

- ♥ Free Quality Education (up to class 10th)
- ♥ Free Food
- ♥ Free Books
- ♥ Free Accommodation
- ♥ Free Clothing and many more
- ♥ Free Employment Oriented Training Program @ APEX ITC



Employment Oriented Program (EOP)

As a part of its social commitment to the people of South Odisha, NIST has started a unique program known as **Employment Oriented Program** where by NIST trains students who are talented yet economically deprived. Since its inception in 2006, the program has been the destination of many such talents of Odisha who are in search of a platform to grow with. The following are the salient features of this four-month program.

Eligibility Criteria: (a) The candidate must have secured at least 50% in H.S.C or equivalent examinations; (b) The family annual income must not exceed Rs. 50,000.

Disciplines offered (Four month Diploma Course):

- Basic Computer Skill (BCS)
- Computerized DTP (DTP)
- Electronics Repair & Maintenance (ERM)
- Repair of Electrical Appliances (REA)
- Computer Repair and Maintenance (CRM)
- Workshop Practice (WP)
- Solar Equipment Technician Training (SETT)
- Spoken and Written English



Each selected candidates are provided facilities like accommodation (for outstation boys and girls) in the campus hostel, lunch, transportation (from Berhampur town to campus), and books/ study materials – all free of cost. Besides it, a sum of Rs. 1,100 is given as monthly stipend to each selected candidate. NIST also provides a certificate at the end of the course to each candidate who successfully completes the program. The selected candidates take benefit of the state-of-the-art infrastructure as well as best of the knowledge domain of industry/academia. Along with the required skills in different domains each candidate is also trained to improve their communication skill. The Department of English takes care of this.

Looking into the popularity of the program, the NIST authorities increased the strength of this program from 25 to 60 in the year 2010, from 60 to 102 in 2012 and from 102 to 119 in 2013. This increased strength was a result of demand of workforce at the diploma level. Now, these students get selected in engineering colleges, libraries, computer training institutes, computer service centers and many more. Currently the program runs under the Entrepreneurship development Cell (EDC) of NIST in association with Department of Science & Technology, Govt. of India.





NSS Club Activities

The NSS club of NIST is deeply involved in improving the living conditions of the people in some poverty stricken villages located in the vicinity of the campus. The club takes an active part in many social service activities as follows:

- A survey on family status of the under developed Garamapeta village has been made by NSS volunteers.
- Distribution of clothes to poor people in nearby villages.
- Involve school-going children in the adopted village in social awareness programs through various contests.
- A 'Health and Sanitation awareness program' was organized at the adopted village Garamapeta where volunteers made the villagers aware of health through prevention of human contact with the hazards of wastes as well as the treatment and proper disposal of sewage wastewater.

- NSS volunteers conducted an old newspaper distribution program at 'Odisha Service Centre for the Blind' near Nalini Bihar, Gosaninuagaon, where student volunteers of NIST donated 2500 units of old newspaper which is useful for writing blind script and also discussed with the blind children about their development and support they need in future.
- Regularly organize blood donation camps on campus.
- Organized a wish tree event in NIST campus and collected fund to support the needy people of the society.
- Donated use working computers to many village schools.
- Gopalpur beach cleaning since last five years.



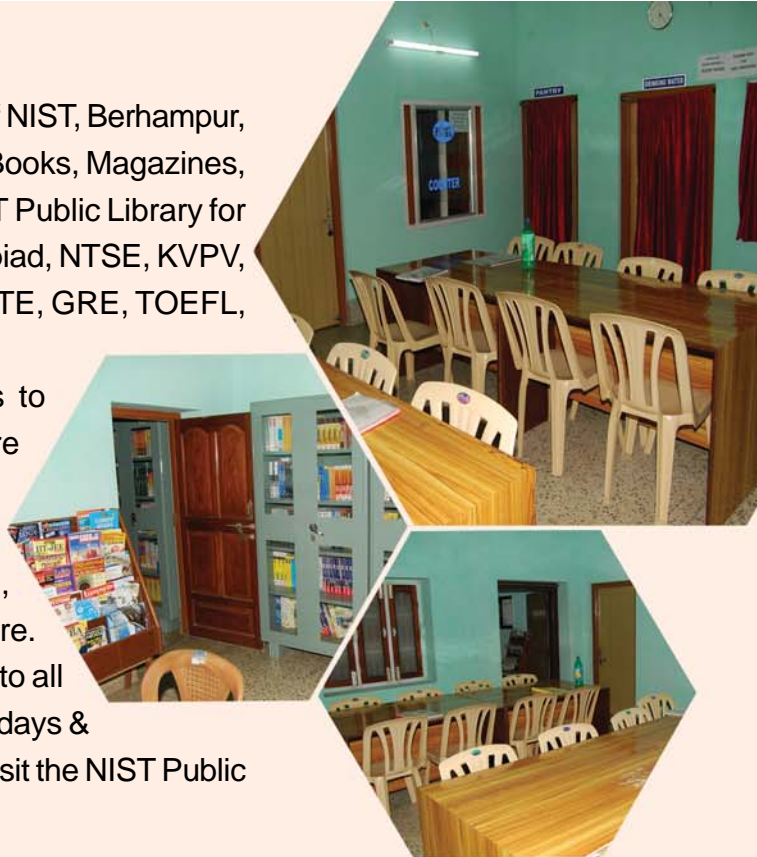
NIST Public Library

The NIST Public Library and Learning Centre, a social initiative of NIST, Berhampur, opened as part of its 15th Anniversary celebrations. All types of Books, Magazines, Study Materials & Newspapers are available free of cost in NIST Public Library for students preparing for Competitive Examinations such as Olympiad, NTSE, KVPV, IITJEE, AIEEE, Orissa JEE, AIPMT, NDA, CAT, MAT, CDS, GATE, GRE, TOEFL, NTPC, UPSC, Bank PO, Railways, OPSC, etc.

Besides books, the library also offers Counseling Services to students on Career Choices – if the students and parents are confused about taking a decision and planning for the future.

Counseling is provided on Engineering, Medicine, Bank, Law, Journalism, Computer courses, Fashion, Design, Accounting, Multimedia, Hotel Management, Marine, Defence and many more.

NIST Learning Centre also offers free Spoken English courses to all students and adults. The library is open on all days (except Mondays & Public Holidays) from 12 noon - 9 P.M. More than 200 students visit the NIST Public Library each day.



Awards of Excellence

NIST recognizes and appreciates the efforts put in by selfless individuals and organizations working for the betterment of the society. As part of its endeavors, NIST honors individual contributors or NGOs with 'Awards of Excellence' every year during their tech-fest "Sankalp" for their contribution towards the society. The award winners are:

- 2013 - Agragamee, NGO, Rayagada – Mr. Achyut Das, Director
- 2012 - Prof J. K. Baral - Former VC, Berhampur University
- 2011 - PREM, NGO, Berhampur
- 2010 – Seva Samaj, NGO, Rayagada – Ms. Shanti Devi and Dr. Ratan Das
- 2009 – Dr. Giridhar Gamang - Former Chief Minister, Odisha
- 2008 – Mr. Prakash Panda - Principal, MAV School, Berhampur
- 2007 – Gram Vikas, NGO, Mahuda – Mr. Joe Madiath
- 2006 – Dr. Mrinal Kanti Nanda, Executive Director, Christian Hospital, Berhampur
- 2005 – Dr. Ravi Satapathy, Ex-principal, MKCG, Berhampur



Inter School Literary Competition

In the pursuit of encouraging the thirst for literature and promoting literary skills among school going students Club Eureka organizes an Inter School Literary Competition **annually** in which schools from all over the city of Berhampur participate. The event is open for students from standard VIII to standard X. The number of participants has shown a steady climb from the time the event started in the year 2007 till the last edition in the year 2013.

The competition has a wide array of events all aimed at making the creative juices flow and to catch literary geniuses young. The competition is bilingual with students displaying their literary flair in both Odiya and English in the debate, essay writing, poetry composition, collage, extempore, spell bee competitions that are organized. With a restriction of two events per student, more number of students are encouraged to participate and represent their schools. Apart from individual awards there is the coveted Champions' Trophy awarded to the school with maximum number of individual prizes.



Robotics Workshops for School Children:

The NIST Robotics Club has been successfully organizing the Summer Workshop on Robotics for school children since the last 10-plus years, where top 5 students from all the schools in and around Berhampur are invited to participate. During the 14-day workshop, the students learn about the Basics of Robotics and its applications, LEGO Robotics and electronics, manual and automatic Robotics concepts and Junk Robotics applications. The workshop aims at making students understand everything related to Robotics and make the concepts clear to them. The workshop is free for all the participants and the institution bears all the expenses for the same.



Livelihood Generation in Rural Areas Using Renewable Energy

As per the 2011 IEA Report – 1.4B or 20% of world's population do not have access to electricity of which 80% is rural population. According to the 2011 India Census Data – 43% of Indians don't have access to electricity. The problem is so daunting that UN has declared 2014-24 as **Decade** of SEFA.

NIST's students, faculty and staff have embarked on a unique and first-of-its-kind endeavor in the world, to develop, test, and deploy patented NanoPower solutions for rural homes, farms, and microenterprises to create zero-emission sustainable communities through Grid and Off-Grid expansion. The solutions are being implemented and tested within its "Renewable Energy Living Laboratory" inside the campus, before field deployment. The manpower to deploy these solutions in the villages will also be trained at the institution. NIST has tied with OREDA, Govt. of Odisha, SunMoksha (Bangalore) and many NGO's for this mission.



Activity of NIST Renewable Energy Center

- UNDP Sponsored conference on "Livelihood Generation in Rural Areas Using Renewable Energy" January 17, 2014.
- Energy Audit of five villages, i.e., Jamuganda, Chotkei, Taranda & Bipra dihi February-March, 2014
- AICTE Sponsored Seminar on "Dispersed Generation and Smart Grid", December, 2013
- Installation of Bio mass, Bio Gas and Solar Thermal Plants inside NIST campus January-March, 2014





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