



10 P.M. to 3 A.M. on 20th Dec., 2016) at the “Rtapalli Vidyapith” school, Balipatana, Odisha. This was a part of the event organized by “The Science Movement” Organization, Bhubaneswar.

- Participated in the organization of the International Olympiad in Astronomy and Astrophysics (IOAA-2016), held in Bhubaneswar, 9-19 Dec. 2016 as Member of the Academic Committee of IOAA-2016.
- Participating in the preparation of the Indian Team for the International Olympiad in Astronomy and Astrophysics (IOAA-2017) to be held in Thailand (will be accompanying the Indian Team).

Visits of school students

The Institute regularly receives requests from various schools in Odisha and outside for visits to its Laboratory facilities which are arranged and managed under the Outreach Program. For this year also several such visits were organized.

Social outreach

Several Institute scholars as well as other members, through the organization Zaria, have been volunteering to teach children of the local Basti and are helping them to enroll in schools.

7.4 Implementation of Official Language

Institute is implementing the Official Language Policy of Govt. of India and ensuring compliance of Official Language as per policy of the Union.

During the year 2016-17, three meetings of the Official Language Implementation

Committee were held under the chairmanship of Registrar. During the meetings progressive use of Hindi at the Institute was discussed and decisions were taken to increase use of Hindi in official work.

As a help literature, Institute brought out a Hindi book “Vyabharika Rajbhasha Margadarshika” and distributed among the staff members.

Hindi Pakhwara was celebrated from 14th September to 28th September, 2016 in the Institute. Various competitions were conducted during this occasion. Maximum staff members were participated in these competitions. On 29th September, 2016 prize distribution function was organized.

During the period of report, three staff members for Prangya training, one for Praveen training were nominated.

Hindi workshops were conducted in every quarter for officer/staff of the Institute in order to remove their hesitation in doing work in Hindi and enabled them to carry out day-to-day work in Hindi.

Joint Scientific Seminar in Hindi on “ Role of Scientific and Technical Institutes in Economic Self-reliance “ on 27th February, 2017 in the Institute.

7.5 The Women’s Cell at IOP

The Women’s Cell looks after the welfare of the Women members, visiting members and the workers of the Institute. It also facilitates redressal of issues and grievances concerning them. The Women’s cell in IOP was constituted in



accordance with the mandate that it shall be the duty of the Employer to prevent or deter the commission of acts of sexual harassment and to provide the procedures for the resolution, settlement or prosecution of acts of sexual harassment etc. by developing a conducive atmosphere on the campus, where women can work safely with dignity and without any Discrimination.

The main functions of the TWC (The Women Cell) at IOP are:

- Promotion of Gender amity : Providing information/consultation on gender amity to any student or members.
- Programmes concerning women's welfare: Bring out publications/posters on promoting gender amity and preventing gender discrimination and sexual harassment at work place.
- Documentation and Dissemination: Notice boards and the IOP web page provide everyone with names and phone extensions of the TWC members.
- Deal with Cases of Gender Discrimination/ Sexual Harassment: Committee looks into complaint of gender discrimination/sexual harassment and makes an inquiry into the case. Committee provides support service to the victimized and recommends an early action to the Director to ensure termination of the harassment with immediate effect. It also submits a report to the Director, recommending appropriate punitive action against the accused found guilty.

The constitution of the IOP women's cell is:

Prof. ShikhaVarma, IOP:	Chairperson
Prof. B.R. Sekhar :	Member
Dr. Debsmita P. Alone, NISER :	Member
Dr. RooplekhaKhuntia, NISER :	Member
Smt. NageswariMajhi, IOP :	Member

Two Special Talks were organized by IOP Women-Cell. These talks were delivered by Advocate (Ms.) Rama Sarode, Socio-Legal Consultant and Trainer, Secretary- Sahyog Trust, Pune in June, 2016.

In the first talk titled "*Journey of Laws related to Women*", Ms. Sarode discussed that how even after more than 60 years of ensuring Right to Equality, we are still struggling to bring gender equality in our society. This struggle for equality has seen the passing of laws to protect the rights of the women. Each legislation has a history of struggle and most women related laws are response to a grave violation of women's right. This session covered the struggles, challenges and making of laws.

In the second talk titled "*Laws against Sexual Harassment of women at workplace*", Ms. Sarode discussed such laws with many examples. She especially mentioned the case of Bhaveri Devi which in the 90s shook India and brought to discussion the security of women at workplace. She elaborated on the Vishakha guidelines that have been given by the Supreme Court to prevent sexual harassment of women at workplaces. However, their implementation could only be strengthened after the passing of Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act in 2013. The talk extensively discussed the provisions of this law and the experiences of its implementation.