

## Highlights of the issue



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### Beyond the Stars : Sunita Williams's Journey

Sunita Williams exemplifies the qualities of perseverance and determination. Her dogged persistence has opened new doors for Indian-American astronauts and space travel. Prior to her time at NASA, she served as a test pilot for the United States Navy. Setting a record for the longest spaceflight by a woman at the time, she spent 195 days in space on her maiden trip on the Space Shuttle Discovery in 2006. In addition to her many spacewalks, she completed a marathon in zero gravity.

She became one of the few women to command a space mission in 2012 when she spent an additional 127 days on the International Space Station (ISS) in the role of Commander of Expedition 33.

The Boeing Crew Flight Test, her most recent mission, took off on 5<sup>th</sup> June 2024. Technical difficulties prolonged her stay on the ISS beyond the eight days initially scheduled for her Starliner test voyage. After a successful mission aboard Starliner, she confidently returned to Earth on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2025, using SpaceX's Crew-9 capsule. She expressed her desire to "fly on it again in a heartbeat."

In addition to her accomplishments, Williams serves as an example that one's gender, background, or country should not be a hindrance to achieving one's goals. Problems are only stepping stones to success, as her story shows. Dream big, put in the time, and you will achieve your dreams!

**Prof. (Dr.) Umakanta Dash**  
Principal

### From the Editor's Desk ...✍️

Dear Readers,

I wish everyone a happy New Year!  
Welcome to the **January-March 2025** edition of Srusti News.

The first quarter was characterized by creativity, learning, and cultural pride. **Srusti Tech Hack 1.0** inspired students to create digital solutions for rural government,

demonstrating our dedication to practical learning. **Monthly FDPs** have continued to promote teacher development and academic success.

At the national level, **Budget 2025-26**

prioritized infrastructure, education, and digital governance. The **Maha Kumbh Mela 2025**

showcased India's rich cultural legacy.

The homecoming of astronaut **Sunita Williams** thrilled millions worldwide, while **AI's Ghibli** effect combined technology and creativity to reshape digital storytelling.

As we move forward, Srusti Academy will remain committed to developing leadership, creativity, and values. Let us face the future with fresh zeal and purpose.

**Ms. Sarita Manjari Prusti**  
Chief Editor

### Students' Achievement

We are proud to celebrate our students' achievements at the BPUT Tech Carnival 2024!

- **Shreya Rout, Sambit Panigrahi, and Jyotiprakash Nayak** (MCA 2023-25) secured 1st place in the **Sustainability Video Competition** for their impactful visual narrative on environmental issues.
- **Lipin Mantri and Subrat Nayak** (MBA 2024-26) won 3rd place in the same category with their original and thought-provoking video.
- **Shova Thapa and Deepika Dash** (MBA 2023-25) earned 3rd prize in the **Face Painting Competition** for their artistic take on sustainability themes.

Congratulations to all for their creativity and commitment to sustainability!



Srusti Staff Picnic at Sapua Dam, Dhenkanal on **19.01.2025**.

Fostering global insights through a Faculty Development Programme (FDP) with Prof. Rajagopal, **Boston University, Massachusetts, USA** on **21.01.2025**.



On **25.01.2025**, Srusti TechHack 1.0 marked a new milestone for the MCA Dept.

On **31.01.2025**, NSS and YRC wing of Srusti promoted Road Safety Awareness for a secure tomorrow.



NSS and YRC unit of Srusti celebrating National Youth Day on **13.01.2025**.

Rangoli Competition held on **03.02.2025 & 05.02.2025**.



Talk on Global Business Landscape was delivered by Prof. Betriz Lucia (Unifac University, Brazil), Prof. Marina Emina, **Florida, USA**, and Prof. S. K. Singh, Principal, G.D. Goenka Public School on **14.02.2025**.

Srusti celebrated Saraswati Puja with devotion and togetherness on **02.02.2025**.







Srusti Radiance 2025, Students enjoying Gully Cricket on **11.03.2025 & 12.03.2025**.

Srusti Radiance 2025, the inter-college competition, showcased talent, creativity and vibrant student participation held on **11.03.2025 & 12.03.2025**.



Srusti Radiance 2025, featuring Euphony a solo song competition held on **11.03.2025 & 12.03.2025**.

Srusti Radiance 2025, featuring Eco Vouge, a sustainable fashion ramp show to promote eco-conscious creativity on **11.03.2025 & 12.03.2025**.



Srusti Academy celebrated International Women's Day with insights, achievements, and recognition on **08.03.2025**.

MOU Signing with **NITKAL** on **20.03.2025** for Japan Language learning.



Sensation 2025, the Annual Fest of the MCA batch on **29.03.2025** lit up the campus with fun & memories.

Sensation 2025, the Annual Fest of the MBA batch on **30.03.2025** celebrated with fun fare and acknowledgment to talents.



## Faculty Achievement

- **Ms. Debadeepti Jagaty, Dr. Umakanta Dash, and Dr. Arpan Mahapatra** co-authored a research paper titled "An Examination of the Interplay between Media Advertisements and Buyers' Decision-Making Processes", published in **European Economic Letters** (ISSN: 2323-5233), an ABDC-C indexed journal.
- **Ms. Rosy Barik** published her insightful paper, "Disruptive Technologies and Innovative Practices in Human Resource Management: A Case Study Analysis," in the **DRIEMS Business Review** (ISSN: 2320-6241; Online: 2321-4112), highlighting emerging trends in HRM.
- **Dr. P. P. Sarangi and Dr. Bhabani Mallia** made significant contributions to their paper, "Glided Connections: Unravelling the Relationship between Gold Prices and the Indian Stock Market," published in **Economic Science** (ISSN: 1505-4683), an ABDC-C indexed journal.
- The same duo, **Dr. P. P. Sarangi and Dr. Bhabani Mallia**, further enriched the academic domain with their study, "Government Policies, Financial Inclusion and Their Ripple Effect on Indian Stock Market Dynamics", featured in **The Academic International Journal of Multidisciplinary Research** (ISSN: 2583-973X), a UGC-CARE listed journal.

## Student Write Up

### MAHAKUMBH MELA 2025

A journey of faith, spirituality, and devotion—Maha Kumbh Mela 2025 of Prayagraj was a festival like no other. Recognised by UNESCO as an Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, it was the world's largest religious gathering, attracting more than 400 million devotees to the Triveni Sangam, where the Ganga, Yamuna, and Saraswati rivers converge. Held every 12 years, this event was especially significant due to a rare celestial alignment that occurs only every 144 years.

According to Hindu mythology, the Kumbh Mela is associated with the story of Samudra Manthan, when Amrit fell at four different locations: Prayagraj, Haridwar, Nashik, and Ujjain. Devotees believe that taking a dip in the river during this time leads to Moksha.

This year's Maha Kumbh Mela was a spectacle of traditions and technology coming together, creating wonders. The government introduced advanced technologies, including AI-powered cameras, drones, and facial recognition systems, to enhance security and ensure smooth management. Pilgrims received RFID wristbands for tracking, and a multilingual AI chatbot assisted visitors in real-time. The festival site transformed into a 4,000-hectare temporary city, featuring 150,000 tents, 145,000 restrooms, and 3,000 kitchens with over 10,000 sanitation workers ensuring a hygienic environment. Improved transport facilities included 81 new flights connecting 17 cities to Prayagraj.

The Netra Kumbh initiative provided free eye check-ups and 300,000 spectacles to the needy, as well as captured some of the internet's unique moments—Viral girl Monalisa, IIT Baba, 'Digital Snan', and a clever entrepreneur who made ₹40,000 by selling Daatun on his girlfriend's advice. The Maha Kumbh Mela 2025 was a perfect blend of faith, tradition, and innovation, making it a remarkable experience for devotees from around the world.

**Baivabi**

MBA: 2024-26

## Awards & Accolades



Proud moment for Srusti Academy of Management and Technology (Autonomous) to honoured with the **State Level Red Cross Award** for best YRC unit for the year 2022-23 from His Excellency Dr. Hari Babu Kambhampati. A testament to our commitment towards service, compassion and community leadership.

## Congratulation



Srusti Academy of Management and Technology (Autonomous) congratulates **Dr. Sucheta Pattanayak**, Librarian, on being awarded a Ph.D. in Library and Information Science by Manasarovar Global University, Madhya Pradesh. Her thesis, titled **"Usefulness of Library and Information Services to the Research Scholars of Universities of Odisha"**, was guided by Prof. (Dr.) Anil Kumar Singh and awarded on **27<sup>th</sup> March 2025**. The institution extends best wishes for her continued academic excellence.

Imprint Line:

Printed and published by Er. Saroj K. Sahoo, Chairman, on behalf of Srusti Academy of Management and Technology(Autonomous), Bhubaneswar - 24, Dist. Khorda, Odisha and published from Srusti Academy of Management and Technology (Autonomous), edited by Ms. Sarita Manjari Prusti, Asst. Prof. and Dr. Sucheta Pattanayak, Librarian.



**SRUSTI ACADEMY of MANAGEMENT and TECHNOLOGY (Autonomous)**

**1<sup>st</sup> B-School in Odisha with 'A' Grade Accreditation by NAAC**

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