

Unparalleled and Exceptional Protection of the IIT Bhubaneswar Campus from Covid – 19

Keeping IITBBS open all through and running the academics in normal standards in a totally unpredictable and deadly Covid-19 pandemic was a very bold decision, whose implementation was very frightening.

During the lockdowns, especially, Lockdown-1, it was not only the students who stayed back in the campus (felt the campus safer and not wanting to expose themselves to the virus on the way back to home), the staff, faculty, their families staying in the campus, the other staff, but also 2000 construction workers who were staying in the campus and wanting to go far off homes by foot like the lacks of workers that did across the nation with a lot of loss of life. It was a big challenge to persuade and control them from their multiple attempts and agitations to go, making the PMC and the contractors, look after and take care of them, ensuring isolation and ensuring their health safety and safe passage to their homes by proper transportation after Lockdown-1.

But we could overcome all the challenges in our strides and ran academics in uncompromised standards during the pandemic. With all the students (including the fresh 1st year students) back in the campus and restoring the academics and other activities fully as usual with their physical presence very well ahead, possibly we could set **a unique national example. Also possibly it is done in rarest of standards across the globe too**, showing that **Indian Institutes can perform at the level of the cream of global class**. Certainly, it is a very gratifying to all.

This kind of unique achievement wouldn't have been possible without the readily available exceptional support and 'rearing to go' attitude from the Covid Task Force and the Medical Unit, especially, Prof VR Pedireddi, the Chairman and Dr MA Khan, Convener with commensurate protection mechanisms for Covid. They never said know to the challenging proposals continuously flowing from me with ready agreement and 'rearing to go' attitude from Prof PR Sahu, DAC on 'academics'. I would be failing in my duty, if I do not acknowledge the outstanding service and support received in the exceptional implementation from the house-keeping unit, wardens, and the security unit, by the side of others.

Prof. R. V. Raja Kumar
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- IIT Bhubaneswar was never closed, permitted willing students to stay on campus (even as institutes were closed down and all students were sent home, elsewhere), all essential services were 'ON' and education was run without any compromises on time without any gap during the pandemic and lockdown.
- Despite being courageous as stated above, the institute could still protect its fraternity in outstanding standards due to constitution of a Task Force, creation of extremely good SoP's and implementation of the same with spirited functioning and cooperation from the entire fraternity. The Director was functioning 7x and provided close guidance during the pandemic. The Covid taskforce and the health center functioned in a very commendable way.
- In view of the phenomenal rise of Covid-19 cases across the country in waves, IITBBS with a motto to safeguard and protect the campus and its community of students, spouses of students, faculty, staff members and their dependents, outsourced staff ranging from security, housekeeping, horticulture etc., against the deadly virus successfully, got everyone vaccinated very holistically in 26 sessions with an active support from the Dept of Health and Family Welfare, GoO and Ministry of Education, GoI. As those who went to homes returned in between the waves, the institute got them vaccinated after quarantining as per the SoP.

IIT Bhubaneswar successfully completes the vaccination of its entire fraternity



- Vaccinated the entire community Dept of Health and Family Welfare, Govt. of Odisha and Ministry of Education, Govt. of India.
- Students who stayed at homes were vaccinated upon arrival at the campus batch after batch.
- A total of 26 drives were conducted.



Serial No.	Date of Vaccination	Centre of Vaccination	Total No. of People	Vaccine Name
1	15.05.2021	Unit-6 Girls High School BBSR	30	Covaxin
2	07.06.2021	P.N. College, Khordha	20	Covishield
3	12.06.2021	UPHC Nayapalli	452	Covaxin
4	15.06.2021	UPHC Nayapalli	99	Covaxin
5	16.06.2021	P.N. College, Khordha	23	Covishield
6	10.07.2021	UPHC Nayapalli	288	Covaxin
7	13.07.2021	UPHC Nayapalli	220	Covaxin
8	11.08.2021	UPHC Nayapalli	60	Covaxin
9	27.08.2021	IIT Bhubaneswar Campus	100	Covishield
10	06.09.2021	IIT Bhubaneswar Campus	110	Covishield
11	08.09.2021	UPHC Nayapalli	16	Covaxin
12	15.09.2021	IIT Bhubaneswar Campus	140	Covishield
13	18.09.2021	UPHC Nayapalli	32	Covaxin
14	08.10.2021	UPHC Nayapalli	16	Covaxin

Serial No.	Date of Vaccination	Centre of Vaccination	Total No. of People	Vaccine Name
15	09.10.2021	IIT Bhubaneswar Campus	135	Covishield
16	16.10.2021	UPHC Nayapalli	09	Covaxin
17	01.11.2021	UPHC Nayapalli	04	Covaxin
18	13.11.2021	IIT Bhubaneswar Campus	123	Covishield
19	11.12.2021	IIT Bhubaneswar Campus	80	Covishield
20	18.12.2021	UPHC Nayapalli	24	Covaxin
21	09.01.2022	UPHC Nayapalli	76	Covaxin
22	15.01.2022	IIT Bhubaneswar Campus	70	Covishield
23	22.01.2022	UPHC Nayapalli	15	Covaxin
24	06.02.2022	UPHC Nayapalli	68	Covaxin
25	19.02.2022	IIT Bhubaneswar Campus	51	Covishield
26	26.02.2022	UPHC Nayapalli	05	Covaxin
		Total	2266	

The Campus has been Largely Covid-free for most Part of the Pandemic

- IIT Bhubaneswar was never closed, permitted willing students to stay on campus, all essential services were 'ON' and education was run
- Despite the outstanding protection. In view of the uncompromised education provided by bringing batches of students for laboratory hands-on etc., from their homes from across the country, some Covid cases came up (students did arrive Covid contacted). But these were handled with extreme care the number Covid cases have been controlled.

Total Covid cases in the campus:
Including Dependents: 52
Excluding Dependents: 37

Covid cases inside the campus		
Month	Total active Cases including dependents	Total active Cases Excluding dependents
Till Aug-20	0	0
Sep-20	5	5
Oct 20 –Feb-21	0	0
March	10	10
April	4	4
May	1	1
June	12	11
July	10	3
August	3	1
September	1	0
October	2	0
November	3	1
December	1	1

“Possibly, IITBBS is the only institute to run education with the best possible resilience in usual standards during the pandemic and protected its fraternity in such an exceptional manner”