

New IEEE Consumer Technology Society Chapter Opens in Odisha, India

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■ **IN JULY** 2020, the IEEE Consumer Technology Society (CTSoc)—Odisha Chapter started functioning under the Kolkata section and Bhubaneswar subsection. The state of Odisha is not only rich in minerals (e.g., has a quarter of its iron ore, a third of its bauxite ore and most of the chromite ore of India), but also has several Institutes of National Importance of India, including the Indian Institute of Technology Bhubaneswar and the National Institute of Technology Rourkela (NIT) at Rourkela. Its capital, Bhubaneswar, has been recognized for its heritage and technologically emerging city and is a designated smart city. However, there were not any professional societies, which could ensure the ideas of those innovators into any development works. The formation of Consumer Technology, Odisha Chapter provided a common workspace that allows innovators to share ideas, innovation in existing technology, and build the next generation innovators.

The first executive committee meeting recently held for the Chapter, where all the members of the CTSoc Odisha Chapter discussed different events and programs to organize in the next couple of months. The main objectives of CTSoc, Odisha Chapter is to ensure the growth of skill and knowledge among the general public and professionals in the field of Consumer Technology. The following activities will be planned in this year under the Odisha chapter: Distinguished Speaker Program, Educational Activities & Webinars, and Industry Engagement.

An interim executive committee has been agreed upon by all the members who will work on by law and other activities to make a vibrant Chapter in Odisha for CTSoc.

- *Chair:* Kamalakanta Mahapatra, NIT Rourkela.
- *Secretary:* Chinmoy K. Panigrahi, KIIT-DU Bhubaneswar.
- *Vice Chair Membership:* Pratap K. Panigrahi, GIET Gunupur.
- *Vice Chair Industrial Liaison:* Bibhudatta Sahoo, NIT Rourkela.

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- *Vice Chair Technical Activities:* Arunanshu Mahapatro, VSSUT, Burla.
- *Vice Chair Sponsorship:* M. Sabarimalai Manikandan, IIT Bhubaneswar.
- *Vice Chair Media:* Ayas Kanta Swain, NIT Rourkela.
- *Treasurer:* Ranjeeta Patel, KIIT-DU Bhubaneswar.
- *Newsletter Editor:* Niranjana K. Ray, KIIT-DU Bhubaneswar.
- *Webmaster:* Umasankar Das, SIT Bhubaneswar.

Besides these activities, The IEEE CTSoc, Odisha Chapter has been conceived to help current Consumer Technology practitioners improve their capabilities, and lead to further fundamental Consumer Technology research and development in the Eastern region of the India. It will also mentor and groom the next generation of Consumer Technology Professionals by working directly with local and national Engineering Colleges and Universities in the state of Odisha.



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