

Sambalpur University at a Glance-2025

Established in 1967, with its foundation stone laid by Dr. Zakir Husain, the then President of India, Sambalpur University is located at Jyoti Vihar, Burla, and stands as one of the premier institutions of higher education in western Odisha. Over the decades, the University has evolved into a major centre of academic excellence, research, and cultural advancement, contributing significantly to the educational and socio-economic development of this region.

Accredited with Grade 'A' by NAAC with a CGPA of 3.10, Sambalpur University functions as a teaching-cum-affiliating University. It exercises academic jurisdiction over 139 affiliated colleges spread across six districts of Odisha such as Sambalpur, Sundargarh, Jharsuguda, Bargarh, Deogarh, and Boudh as well as the Athmallik subdivision of Angul district. Through its 26 postgraduate teaching departments, constituent institutions, and affiliated colleges, the University caters to more than 80,000 students across diverse disciplines, including Humanities, Social Sciences, Pure and Applied Sciences, Technology, and professional education.

The year 2025 marked a significant phase in the University's growth, with notable advancements in academics, research, infrastructure development, and student achievements, in alignment with the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. The University follows a semester-based system supported by continuous internal assessment, project work, field studies, and effective integration of digital learning platforms, ensuring quality-driven and outcome-oriented education. The university conducted numerous undergraduate and postgraduate examinations, catering to a student strength of 147,739 at the undergraduate level and 2,500 at the postgraduate level across 38 disciplines.

Research and innovation continued to be key priorities of Sambalpur University. In 2025, the University secured major sponsored research funding, including ₹100 crore under the PM-USHA (MERU Grant) from the Ministry of Education, ₹13.11 crore under the prestigious ANRF-PAIR Project from DST in collaboration with NIT Rourkela, and a sustainable grant of ₹60 lakh from the Department of Higher Education, Govt. of Odisha to support its Centres of Excellence. Various Departments also received extramural grants from agencies such as ICMR, DBT, Ministry of Ayush, DST, SPCB, NABARD, ICSSR, MRIP and several industries. The University signed multiple MoUs with leading national institutions to promote collaborative research. Faculty and research scholars contributed significantly through quality publications, patents, and doctoral work. The University's Incubation Centre supported innovation by incubating two startups (Orchid Herbal Pvt. Ltd. and WinDNA Life Sciences Pvt. Ltd.) and organizing a university-level startup competition for students.

Infrastructure development emerged as a major milestone in 2025. The University received approximately ₹68 crore under the PM-USHA (MERU Grant)-2025 for the development of academic buildings, hostels, skilling and incubation centres, and Centres of Excellence. Additionally, the Government of Odisha approved ₹47.25 crore for various infrastructure projects, significantly strengthening the University's physical and academic ecosystem.

Students of Sambalpur University continued to bring laurels to the institution through outstanding achievements in academics, sports, innovation, and cultural activities. In 2025-26 sports session, the University Men's Badminton Team secured 4th place in the East Zone and qualified for the All India Inter-University Badminton Championship and the Khelo India University Games for the first time, marking a historic milestone. The University also created history by winning 15 prestigious awards and emerging as the All-India Champions in Theatre, Dance, and Drama at the All-India Drama Competition held at Bhagalpur, Bihar, on 22 December 2025. Students further excelled academically, demonstrating strong research potential, with 91 scholars awarded Ph.D. degrees, 03 awarded D.Litt., and 01 awarded D.Sc. during 2025.

With a strong academic foundation, a growing research ecosystem, modern infrastructure, and a steadfast commitment to social responsibility, Sambalpur University in 2025 stands as a beacon of higher education in Odisha, dedicated to excellence, innovation, and inclusive growth.

Registrar