



**Minutes of the 10<sup>th</sup> (Tenth) Alumni Meet (General Body Meeting) of the Utkal Statistics Alumni Association (USAA) held on 08.03.2025 (Sunday).**

The 10<sup>th</sup> (Tenth) Alumni Meet of the Utkal Statistics Alumni Association (USAA) was held under the Chairmanship of Prof. Gopabandhu Mishra, President of the Association, in the PG Council Hall, Utkal University, Vani Vihar, Bhubaneswar on 08.03.2025 (Sunday). Registration of participants started sharp at 09:30 AM and each participant was given a set of reference materials i.e. (i) a copy of the programme for the day, (ii) a copy of the Annual Activity Report of USAA for the year 2024-25, and (iii) a pad, pen etc.

The meet was organised in 5 (five) sessions i.e. (i) Inaugural Session, (ii) Introduction of Members, (iii) Interactive Session and (iv) Cultural Programme with a Lunch Break in the middle.

**I. INAUGURAL SESSION: (10:30 am to 11:30 am):**

At the outset, Sri Rudra Narayan Mahalik and Ms Basanti Goswani, 2<sup>nd</sup> year students of the Department welcomed to the Dias Shri Lalit Kumar Das, Retd IPS, Chairman, Odisha Subordinate Staff Selection Commission as the Guest of Honor of the day. They also welcomed the senior most Alumni Member present on the day Sri Lokanath Sarangi (1968) as the Chief Guest. Besides, they welcomed our President Prof Gopabandhu Mishra, the Working President Prof. Priya Ranjan Dash, and the Secretary Shri Banshidhar Mahapatra to the Dias and requested to them to please take their seats. Flower bouquets were presented to hon'ble dignitaries on the Dias by students of the Department after they had taken their seats.

Dr Priya Ranjan Dash gave a very brief welcome address about the dignitaries on the Dias as well as all the alumni members and requested the President and all other members to light the inaugural lamp. Accordingly, hon'ble President lighted the lamp amidst the Guest of Honor and the Chief Guest as well as all other members present on the occasion. After lighting of lamp, the Utkal University Theme Song was played in a pin drop silence atmosphere.

Prof. Priya Ranjan Dash introduced the dignitaries on the Dias and welcomed them to the august occasion. Before formal business of the Meet, Prof. Dash expressed in grief that it has come to the knowledge of USAA that 4 (four) of our senior Alumni Members Syd Aqil Manzar Hasan (1966), Shrimati Kuntala Kumari Das (1969), Sri Deepak Kumar Mitra (1970) and Dr Binod Chandra Mohanty (1977) have left for Heavenly Abode in between the Ninth and Tenth Alumni Meet. At this, all the Members stood up and observed two minutes silence as a token of condolence for the departed souls.

On the request Prof P R Dash, Prof Gopabandhu Mishra, President USAA initiated the business of the meeting and solicited valued contributions from among the alumni members so as to give new dimensions to the Alumni Body. He also expressed that our Alumni Meet to be meaningful, apart from meeting our old friends, we should share our experience, expertise and give constructive suggestions to carry on the activities of USAA in a meaningful manner which will help enriching the subject and our students will get the benefit.

- (i) On the request of the President, Sri Banshidhar Mahapatra, the General Secretary, USAA read out the Annual Reports of the Association for the year 2024-25 for information of esteemed members. He gave a detailed account of various activities done by the USAA during last year, the present position and the steps proposed to be taken ahead which had been reflected in the Annual Activity Report that had been circulated among the members in this meet.

In regard to the financial position of USAA, during the years 2023-24, the total receipt was Rs.16,49,924.26 including the opening balance of Rs.8,06,455.26 at the beginning of the year. As against this, the expenditure during the year was of the order of Rs.4,16,000.00 that included expenditures on Eighth Alumni Meet, distribution of prizes and other contingent expenses. The closing balance at the end of the year was Rs.12,33,924.26 that includes Rs.49,260.00 (in cash) and the rest in bank.

With this, he solicited considered opinion and valued suggestions of esteemed members for better functioning of USAA in future.

- (ii) **Distribution of Prize:** On the request of Prof Priya Ranjan Dash, Prof Gopabandhu Mishra, President USAA, amidst the dignitaries on the Dias and the Alumni Members, distributed cash prize as well as certificates of merit to students of the Department on different aspects and rank holders in the Statistics Olympiad 2024. Details of cash prizes awarded on the occasion is as under.

| Category / SI | Award / Rank                                                | Name & Address of Awardees                                                                                                                                                                                    | Amount (in Rs)  |
|---------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| (1)           | (2)                                                         | (3)                                                                                                                                                                                                           | (4)             |
| <b>A</b>      | <b>Shridhar Panda Memorial Award: 2024</b>                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                 |
| 1             | 1                                                           | Sri Somanath Sahoo, for securing highest mark in M A / M Sc Examination in Statistics from Utkal University among the boys in 2024.                                                                           | 5,000/-         |
|               |                                                             | <b>Total (A)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                              | <b>5,000/-</b>  |
| <b>B</b>      | <b>Kokila Devi Memorial Award: 2024</b>                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                 |
| 2             | 1                                                           | Ms Smrutisudha Rath for securing highest mark in M A / M Sc Examination in Statistics from Utkal University among the girls in 2024.                                                                          | 5,000/-         |
|               |                                                             | <b>Total (B)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                              | <b>5,000/-</b>  |
| <b>C</b>      | <b>Badal Chatterjee Memorial Award: 2025</b>                |                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                 |
| 3             | 1                                                           | Ms Jyotiswini Nayak, 2024 Batch for securing the highest marks in 3 <sup>rd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup> Semesters in M A / M Sc Examination in Statistics from Utkal University.                                | 7,500/-         |
| 4             | 2                                                           | Ms Prangya Priyadarsani Sahoo, 2025 Batch for securing the highest marks in 1 <sup>st</sup> and 2 <sup>nd</sup> Semesters in M A / M Sc Examination in Statistics from Utkal University.                      | 7,500/-         |
|               |                                                             | <b>Total (C)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                              | <b>15,000/-</b> |
| <b>D</b>      | <b>Ganeswar Mohanty and Jasoda Dei Memorial Award: 2025</b> |                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                 |
| 5             | 1                                                           | Laxmipriya Singh, (honors in Statistics) who topped the select list for admission to the M A / M Sc course in Statistics among girls under the P G Department of Statistics, Utkal University for 2026 Batch. | 10,000/-        |
|               |                                                             | <b>Total (D)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                              | <b>10,000/-</b> |
| <b>E</b>      | <b>Statistics Olympiad: 2024</b>                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                 |
| 6             | 1 <sup>st</sup>                                             | Sri Nishant Kumar Sahu, 2 <sup>nd</sup> year Science, Yuvodaya H S School, Balangir                                                                                                                           | 5,000/-         |
| 7             | 2 <sup>nd</sup>                                             | Ms Bijaya Bisi, 2 <sup>nd</sup> year Science, Newton Higher Secondary School, Sambalpur.                                                                                                                      | 3,000/-         |
| 8             | 3 <sup>rd</sup> (Jointly)                                   | Sri Deba Prasad Sahoo, 2 <sup>nd</sup> year Science, S C S College, Puri.                                                                                                                                     | 2,000/-         |
| 9             | 3 <sup>rd</sup> (Jointly)                                   | Sri Vechha Karthik. 2 <sup>nd</sup> year Science, H S School, Jeypore.                                                                                                                                        | 2,000/-         |
|               |                                                             | <b>Total (E)</b>                                                                                                                                                                                              | <b>12,000/-</b> |
| <b>F</b>      | <b>Debate Competition: 2025</b>                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                               |                 |
| 10            | 1 <sup>st</sup>                                             | Sri Krishna Kumar Prajapati, 1 <sup>st</sup> year student 2025                                                                                                                                                | 1,000/-         |
| 11            | 2 <sup>nd</sup>                                             | Ms D Simple, 1 <sup>st</sup> year student 2025                                                                                                                                                                | 750/-           |

| Category / SI | Award / Rank                     | Name & Address of Awardees                                                      | Amount (in Rs)  |
|---------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| (1)           | (2)                              | (3)                                                                             | (4)             |
| 12            | 3 <sup>rd</sup>                  | Ms Gayatri Beuria, 1 <sup>st</sup> year student 2025                            | 500/-           |
|               |                                  | <b>Total (F)</b>                                                                | <b>2,250/-</b>  |
| <b>G</b>      | <b>Quiz Competition: 2025</b>    |                                                                                 |                 |
| 13            | 1 <sup>st</sup>                  | Sri Pradyumna Panda, 2 <sup>nd</sup> year student 2025                          | 1,000/-         |
| 14            | 2 <sup>nd</sup>                  | Sri Rudra Narayan Mahalik, 2 <sup>nd</sup> year student 2025                    | 750/-           |
| 15            | 3 <sup>rd</sup>                  | Ms D Simple, 1 <sup>st</sup> year student 2025                                  | 500/-           |
|               |                                  | <b>Total (G)</b>                                                                | <b>2,250/-</b>  |
| <b>H</b>      | <b>Rangoli Competition: 2025</b> |                                                                                 |                 |
| 16            | 1 <sup>st</sup> (Jointly)        | Ms Jyotiprava Kar & Ms Debasmita Kar, 2 <sup>nd</sup> year students 2025        | 1,000/-         |
| 17            | 2 <sup>nd</sup> (Jointly)        | Ms Swayamprava Parida & Ms Jyotiswini Nayak, 2 <sup>nd</sup> year students 2025 | 750/-           |
| 18            | 3 <sup>rd</sup> (Jointly)        | Ms Gayatri Beuria & Sushritamayee Behera, 1 <sup>st</sup> year students 2025    | 500/-           |
|               |                                  | <b>Total (H)</b>                                                                | <b>2,250/-</b>  |
| <b>I</b>      | <b>Essay Competition: 2025</b>   |                                                                                 |                 |
| 19            | 1 <sup>st</sup>                  | Ms Avilipsa Roul, 1 <sup>st</sup> year students 2025                            | 1,000/-         |
| 20            | 2 <sup>nd</sup>                  | Sri Sibasish Mishra, 1 <sup>st</sup> year students 2025                         | 750/-           |
| 21            | 3 <sup>rd</sup>                  | Ms Basanti Goswami, 2 <sup>nd</sup> year students 2025                          | 500/-           |
|               |                                  | <b>Total (I)</b>                                                                | <b>2,250/-</b>  |
|               |                                  | <b>Grand Total (A+B+C+D+E+F+G+H+I)</b>                                          | <b>56,000/-</b> |

(Rupees fifty six thousands only)

- (iii) The Guest of Honour, Shri Lalit Kumar Das, Retd IPS, Chairman, Odisha Subordinate Staff Selection Commission in his address highlighted that application of Statistics is not only very vast in different fields but it has its application in everyday life. Although, he was basically, a student of Engineering, he narrated how he had handled various civil as well as criminal matters successfully with the use of statistical data relating to past records in his service career. He has a fascination of using past records and statistical information in taking a decision on future course of action. He also gave examples of occasions, when he even had taken the advice of professional statisticians in analysing the past data in arriving at conclusions. With this he specifically advised the students to acquire more and more knowledge on the applied aspects statistics than class room teaching.
- (iv) Before giving his inaugural address, Prof Gopabandhu Mishra, President, USAA extended a hearty and warm welcome to the dignitaries on the Dais as well as the august audience. He recollected his past days in the Department as a student as well as a teacher. There shall be certain constraints always. Despite that students can excel if they can exhaust available opportunities with due sincerity. While professors shall teach and guide students in the class room, there is need organising seminars and workshops on applied fields by inviting experts from outside. Many of our old alumni members had worked in varied applied fields. Their expertise could be taken in organising seminars and workshops. He always wish that younger generation and particularly our students should excel better than before. With this he once again wished our students to do hard labour and gather more and more knowledge on application aspect of our subject.
- (v) Sri Lokanath Sarangi (1968), the Chief Guest thanked the Alumni Body for the gesture they have shown towards him on this occasion. He said that after completing post-graduate degree from here, he had worked in the different fields like education and training, irrigation, health,

planning and development quite for a long time. After having worked in different fields, he is of the opinion that class room teaching is not at all sufficient to be a good Statistician. There is no substitute for field experience. One should know how to design schedules and questionnaire, collect data, assimilate data and derive conclusions. More so, all our statements should rest on facts and figures. In other words, we should give a statistical flavour to our statement so that it will be necessarily convincing. With this, he wished the meet a very good success.

**(vi) Vote of Thanks,**

Dr.P.K.swain, treasurer, appreciated the views and concern expressed by Guest of Honour Sri Lalit Kumar Das. He extended his heartfelt thanks to Sri Das who joined the meet despite his busy schedule. Dr. Swain highly appreciated the advice Prof Gopabandhu Mishra to the students. His advice and guidance to our students and the alumni community as a whole are praise worthy. He also deeply appreciated the role played by Prof. Mishra as the President, USAA. He extended his heartfelt thanks to Prof. Mishra. Dr. Swain appreciated the advice of the Chief Guest Sri Lokanath Sarangi to the Students as also to the Department based on his long years of service experience. He extended profuse thanks to Sri Sarangi. Sri Banshidhar Mahapatra, General Secretary was not only dedicated but very punctual to his duties. He extended profuse thanks to Sri Mahapatra. Shri Rakesh Behera, the Faculty Alumni Relations had been looking to all arrangements of this meet sincerely and silently over the last many days for which it has been successful one. He extended his heartfelt thanks to Dr Behera. Many of our Alumni members and our students had been working day and night for this meet starting from planning, arrangement of different activities including invitation of Guests as well as invitation of Alumni Members, arrangement of venue, food etc. Dr. Swain extended his heartfelt thanks to one and all those involved in the process. With this, the inaugural session was concluded over a cup of tea.

**II. INTRODUCTION OF MEMBERS: (11:30 am to 01:30 pm)**

This session was Chaired by Sri Lokanath Sarangi (1968). On many an occasion, our Alumni Members though eager to attend this Meet are not able to do so because of their distant place of work. To obviate this situation, this time, facilities to attend virtually for members not able to attend physically were arranged and as many as 20-25 members participated this meet virtually. The physical and virtual attendance taken together was slightly more than 120 of whom around 15 had attended this Meet for the first time.

Today (08.03.2025) coinciding with the World Women's Day, the Chair Person on the Dias greeted one and all the Women Alumni Members and wished them all to enjoy their legitimate rights in the society and do their best to build a happy and prosperous society. On her request, Dr C Vijaya (1983) was given an opportunity to tell in brief on the significance of World Women's Day, the retrospective changes on the participation of women on different counts as well as hurdles they are facing. She deliberated very nicely on the topic and expressed that the gap between men and women participation in India as well as in Odisha on different counts has been reducing gradually. Time is no far for the women to enjoy their legitimate rights as that of their counterparts. This being the World's Women Day, a Group photo of all the women participants was taken separately as a token of memory along with the Group photo of all the Alumni Members in the photo session.

After that the first timers gave their introduction as well as offered their valued suggestions to carry forward the activities of USAA. Students continuing at present were also given opportunity to express their expectation from the Alumni Body. They expected that USAA may take up some program by which they can enhance their exposure and capability so that they can too utilize their knowledge on the subject in the right prospective after they leave the campus and do their best in

their career. Due to constraints of time, further interaction among members was deferred to the afternoon session.

### **PHOTO SESSION & LUNCH BREAK: (01:30 Pm to 02:30 pm)**

#### **III. INTERACTIVE SESSION: (02:30 pm to 04:00 pm)**

During this session, all the alumni members were given opportunity to express their views and opinion about the activities of USAA as also offer their suggestions for its better functioning. A good number of members spoke on this session.

Few points that emerged during their deliberations were of the following nature: -

- ❖ Experience sharing Workshops and Seminars may be organised in the Department by inviting Alumni Members having their experience and expertise in different fields relating to Statistics so that students will benefit out of that.
- ❖ It was noticed that some alumni members are contributing funds to USAA online of their own accord on regular basis. Besides, on the occasion of this alumni meet many a member have sent their contribution to USAA through different means. To make it simple and straight forward, it was decided to obtain a QR Code against USAA account from the Bank and share it with members so that they can contribute to USAA in a hassle-free manner.
- ❖ Physical attendance of the Alumni Members in the Alumni Meet is most desirable. If at all, a member is unable to do so because of certain constraints, he should be given opportunity to attend virtually. Arrangements for virtual participation was made available during this year in this Meet and it was successful. It was suggested that the virtual meeting should be arranged in a better manner from the next time so that it will be more interactive, enjoying and meaningful.
- ❖ All the members were informed that apart from this Meet, Alumni Members can give their suggestions to USAA for its better functioning at any time through the email ID of USAA ([usaa.uuvv@gmail.com](mailto:usaa.uuvv@gmail.com)) or else through USAA Website..

#### **IV. CULTURAL PROGRAM: (04:00 pm to 05:30 pm)**

Similar to previous occasions, the first year and second year students of the P G Department of Statistics as well as some old alumni members had arranged exciting cultural program.

- ❖ In the beginning, Ms Binitarani Gochhayat a 2<sup>nd</sup> year student sang a Song entitled “Apasara, Pinga ga Pori Pinga” which was quite lively and most enjoying.
- ❖ Ms Susmita Sahoo, a 1<sup>st</sup> year student played a song “Badi Mushkil – Chamak chalo – Od chail chabali – Sharara Sharara, that amused the audience.
- ❖ A 1<sup>st</sup> year student, Ms Laxmipriya Singh played the song “Haye chaka chak Aithey aa” which was most lively mind blowing.
- ❖ One Mono Acting was staged by Ms Jukta Jyotirmayee Panda, a 2<sup>nd</sup> year student that was to the most satisfaction to the audience.
- ❖ A Group Dance on the Theme “Haye chaka chak – 1, 2, 3, 4 get on the dance floor – ek, do, tin” was staged by the 4 (four) 2<sup>nd</sup> year girl students Ms Jukta Jyotirmayee Panda, Ms Banitarani Gochhayat, Ms Sweta Snigdha Rana and Ms Basanti Goswami which was quite lively and entertaining.
- ❖ Another Group Dance on the Theme “Barso re – London thumakda” was staged by the 4 (four) 1<sup>st</sup> year girl students Ms Laxmipriya Singh, Ms Pragnya Paramita Jena, Ms D Simple and Ma Deepika Sinha which was most entertaining.

- ❖ Finally, a Duet Dance was staged by Ms Sweta Snigdha Rana and Sri Aditya Atul Jena of 2<sup>nd</sup> year on the song “ Chameli Haye Haye – Maua Jhalka” which was most enjoyable.

### **Conclusion:**

Shri Rakesh Behera (Faculty Alumni Relation) expressed his deepest satisfaction over the grand success of this Tenth Alumni Meet. This has been possible due to participation of Alumni Members in good number and their meaningful interaction and suggestions. He extended his gratitude and thanks to one and all the Alumni Members present on the occasion. Shri Behera further indicated that our students voluntarily came forward and distributed different activities of the meet among themselves starting from invitation of participants, arrangements and practice of cultural programmes, registration of participants, anchoring, arrangement of food and snacks and the many. The cooperation of non-teaching staff of the Department is worth mentioning. Had they not come forward voluntarily in a dedicated manner, the meet would not have been as successful as we have seen today. He extended profuse thanks to one and all of them.

With this, the Alumni Meet was concluded with the exchange of pleasantries with each other.

Bhubaneswar:

Dated: 08.03.2025



(Gopabandhu Mishra)

**PRESIDENT**