



Report on the 48th Orissa Botanical Society (OBS) & National Conference (AMPRI-2026)

Date: 1st- 2nd February 2026

Venue: Centurion University of Technology and Management, Bhubaneswar, Odisha

Organized by: Department of Botany, School of Applied Sciences, CUTM, in association with the Orissa Botanical Society

Day 1: 1st February 2026

The **48th Orissa Botanical Society (OBS) Annual Conference and National Conference on “Advances in Medicinal Plant Research and Innovations (AMPRI-2026)”** commenced at Centurion University of Technology and Management, Bhubaneswar, with the participation of more than **400 delegates**.

The inaugural session began with a welcome address by **Dr. Rukmini Mishra, Convener, AMPRI-2026**, followed by an address by **Dr. Sujata Mohanty, Secretary, OBS**. The session was presided over by **Prof. (Dr.) Kunja Bihari Satapathy, President, OBS**, and was graced by **Prof. R. N. Acharya, Director General, Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences, New Delhi, as Chief Guest**, and **Prof. Biswajit Mishra, Hon'ble Pro-Vice Chancellor, CUTM, as Guest of Honour**. The Souvenir-cum-Abstract Book, OBS Plant Science Journal and other scholarly publications were released. The inaugural session concluded with a vote of thanks by **Dr. Gyanranjan Mahalik, Organizing Secretary**.

The technical sessions featured invited lectures by Dr. Partha Pratim Baruah, Prof. Sagar Kumar Mishra and Prof. Pradip Kumar Nayak on medicinal plants, ethnomedicine and natural products. Research presentations were also conducted under the Sarojini G. Memorial Award and Priyambada Mishra Memorial Award categories. A poster presentation session involving 56 research scholars and students was organized. The day concluded with a cultural programme and networking session.

Day 2: 2nd February 2026

The second day began with the third technical session and three invited lectures were delivered by Dr. Sankar Narayana Sinha, Dr. Gatha Mohanty and Dr. Gopal Krishna, focusing on phytochemicals, antimicrobial activity, medicinal plants in oral healthcare and the role of plant taxonomy in ethnobotanical studies.

A parallel research presentation session under the B. P. Chaudhury Memorial Award category was also conducted. The conference concluded with an Award and Felicitation Ceremony, during which distinguished scientists, academicians and meritorious students were honoured with various OBS Memorial Awards.

Overall, the **48th OBS & AMPRI-2026** successfully provided a vibrant platform for scientific interaction, knowledge exchange and collaboration in medicinal plant research and other aspects of plant science research, contributing to future innovations and sustainable utilization of plant resources.