

Computer Centre



Information Brochure



Dr. B.R. AMBEDKAR OPEN UNIVERSITY

Prof. G. Ram Reddy Marg, Road No. 46, Jubilee Hills

Hyderabad - 500 033, Telangana State, India

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About the University

The University, initially known as Andhra Pradesh Open University, was set up on 26th August 1982 through an Act of the A.P. State Legislature (APOU Act 1982). Subsequently, the University was renamed Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Open University on 26 October 1991 by the Government of Andhra Pradesh. The establishment of this University, the first of its kind in India, heralded an era of affirmative action on the part of the Government of Andhra Pradesh to provide opportunities for higher education to all sections of society to meet the changing individual and social needs. The University offers services to defense personnel, prison inmates, and learners from remote and tribal areas who are not having access to education. All the programs offered by the University are recognized by the University Grants Commission, New Delhi. The motto of the University is "EDUCATION FOR ALL".



Computer Centre

The University started its computer Centre in 1985 with a small micro-computer. Since then the Centre has upgraded its resources four times with appropriate technologies. Various application software packages have been developed to handle the ever-increasing student needs. The Centre has designed, developed, and implemented these applications, particularly in the areas of student support services and examinations. The Computer center provides back-office data processing services, online user-friendly solutions, with LAN for the student community at large. The Centre provides services to the students, by providing access to the database through the INTERNET which enables them to find out the particulars of the dispatch of their study material, fee payment, results, and marks memos. The University's website is maintained regularly by the Centre. Information on Counselling Schedules, Telecast and Broadcast schedules, last date for payment of fees, and submission of applications for various programs offered by the University are available on the Website. Publication of examination results on the website is a standard feature of the Centre.

The Computer Centre of the university is responsible for In-house software development and software maintenance for the University services including online services for Admissions, Examinations Registrations, Entrance Test Registrations, and Online Certificate Registrations. Further, the Computer Centre is responsible for offline activities like Maintenance of Computers and other Computer related equipment, centralized LAN, Internet maintenance, etc.

Objectives

- IT-based infrastructural support to the University
- Automation of Processes
- Maintenance of IT-based services

Centralized Common IT equipment

Servers and Storage devices (4 Servers, 1 Storage device)

- Two Servers (Dell Power Edge R740, 2 x Intel Xeon G6244, 128GB RAM, 1.8 x6 TB HDD) were purchased on 29-09-2020 and co-located at the STPI data center for uninterrupted Online student service
- Two Servers (HPE DL380 Gen10+, 1 x Intel Xeon 6334 G, 64 GB RAM, 10 TB Storage purchased October-2022 One for Confidential data processing and another for Certificate data processing
- NAS 1660-R7G 24A Storage with Intel Xeon Silver processor 24 TB usable space after RAID, purchased in October-2022 for Onscreen evaluation answer scripts data storage

Cloud Storage

The University has subscribed to cloud space from Telangana State Data Center with 10TB, Two VMs with 300GB internet bandwidth.

- VM-1 with Ubuntu mint 7 TB (for host university portals lib.braou.ac.in, oer.braou.ac.in, ir.braou.ac.in, lms.braou.ac.in)
- VM-2 with Windows Server 3 TB (for Onscreen evaluation process)

Local Area Network

- Centralized L3 Switches HP Aruba for centralized support with V-LANs
- L2 HP Aruba Switch (Access Switches and Aggregated Switches)
- HP Aruba WiFi Control Engine
- Sophos XGS2300 Firewall with Routing Feature
- Juniper Router M10i (under NME-ICT project)
- HP Aruba WiFi Access Points - for the University

Internet Facility

- 1Gbps fiber connection under the NME-ICT project with 150 Mbps promised bandwidth. This connection may go up to 1Gbps based on the utilization. Subscribed in 2012.
- 100 Mbps Internet Leased Line from BSNL. Subscribed in September-2022 for EMR&RC for online lessons delivery.
- 1 Gbps Broadband connection from Act Fiber for EMR &RC for backup purposes.

Software in use

- Windows Server 2016, 2019, 2021 (7 Licenses)
- SQL Server Standard Core 2016 (1 License), SQL Server Standard Core 2019 (2 Licenses)
- SQL Server Standard for desktops (15 Licenses)

- Visual Studio (17 Licenses)
 - Windows 10/11 (365 Licenses)
 - MS Office (335 Licenses)
 - Ubuntu software (Open Source) for all Laptops and desktops supplied to the Learner Support Centres (presently 154 laptops and 23 Desktops are at RCCs and Learner Support Centres)
 - Antivirus e-Scan 210 License with a 3-year subscription and Sophos Antivirus for Servers
 - Microsoft Windows Defender for newly purchased Desktop
- Computers: 69 and Laptops: 87
- SPSS multi-user software for research work
 - Tally multi-user license for the Finance branch
 - Adobe Acrobat subscription



ICT-enabled facilities (Lab)

In-House Software Development team

Admission data processing Computer Cell

Exam Data Processing Cell

On Screen Vuation Scanning Hall

Staff training and Student Lab for Professional courses

Computer Lab for the Student

Automation of Processes

In-House Software Application for Online Student Services (Some important Services)

- Entrance test Registration (Online registration Started in 2013)
- Online Admissions (Started in 2013)
- Certificate verification system at LSC using SMS (Started in 2013, the web interface was also given in 2015 to verify student eligibility)
- Online Fee Payment System (Started in 2013 through AP Online Franchise Centers, 2014 SBI Payment gateway)
- Online Exam Registration for all courses (Started in October-2013)
- Online Revaluation Registration facility (Started in October-2015)
- Online Downloadable Memos (Started in 2015)
- Self-service: Student's detailed report with OTP (from 2016)
- Online ID Card Download (Started in 2017)
- Online Certificate Registration (Started in November-2017)
- Portal for Online view/download of Audio/Video Lessons & Support Materials (Started in 2019)
- Online Course Material Download (Started in April-2020)
- Self Service: Online Data correction application (Started in September-2020 for email and address change, email and address change using SMS started in September-2020)
- Online classes (Started in April-2021)
- Grievance redressal system (offline from the inception of the University, Online Grievance redressal started in 2023)
- Academic counselors' database maintenance
- Guest house allocation and maintenance



Automation activities in collaboration with other agencies

- Email services subscribed from NIC (earlier emails run on squid server, from 2009 subscribed from NIC)
- Mobile App (started from October- 2017 and revised with a student-centric concept in April-2023)
- Onscreen Evaluation for exam paper valuation (Started in 2017)
- Automated bill processing and payments for onscreen valuation (Started in 2017)
- Automated Payroll, Finance and Income Tax work (Started in 2005 with in-house standalone software, in 2009 software development was outsourced)
- E-office for file movement (Started in 2022 with the help of Information Technology, Electronics, and Communications)

Maintenance Activities of the Computer Center

- Centralized database management & data backup
- Website, Web portal, and sub-domain maintenance
- IT infrastructure establishment and maintenance including Servers, Systems, and LAN
- Training the employees of Student support services on computer - based services.
- Technical support for Help desk maintenance including helpdesk emails handling
- Technical support for Call Center maintenance
- Grievance redressal mechanism
- Maintenance of Student Mobile App

for further information please contact

System Engineer & Incharge

Computer Centre

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