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PRESS-RELEASE

CIIE IIT (ISM) Dhanbad Foundation signs MoU with Head Held High Foundation to strengthen AI-led innovation ecosystem

In a significant step towards strengthening the innovation and entrepreneurial ecosystem at IIT (ISM) Dhanbad, the CIIE IIT (ISM) Dhanbad Foundation has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Head Held High Foundation to advance the vision of the JAN AI Initiative and promote a culture of innovation, collaboration and responsible technology adoption across the institute.

The partnership aims to bring together academia, industry and social impact organizations to create meaningful opportunities for students, researchers, startups and aspiring entrepreneurs. Through this collaboration, both organizations will work towards encouraging innovation, problem-solving and skill development in the areas of Artificial Intelligence and emerging technologies.

Under the MoU, students of IIT (ISM) Dhanbad will gain access to expert talks, mentorship opportunities, knowledge-sharing sessions, industry interactions, skill enhancement programmes and collaborative initiatives. These engagements are expected to help bridge the gap between classroom learning and real-world challenges while enabling students to develop technology-driven solutions with social impact.

The collaboration will also facilitate stronger engagement among stakeholders from academia, industry, startups and the social sector, thereby creating an environment where innovative ideas can be nurtured, transformed into scalable solutions and translated into impactful ventures.

The **CIIE IIT (ISM) Dhanbad Foundation (Centre for Innovation, Incubation and Entrepreneurship)** serves as the institute's dedicated innovation and startup support platform. It works to nurture entrepreneurship, support technology-driven ventures, facilitate incubation, mentorship and industry partnerships, and help innovators transform ideas into sustainable enterprises.

Head Held High Foundation is a not-for-profit organization working to empower youth through skill development, employability enhancement, entrepreneurship promotion and technology-enabled social transformation. Through various initiatives, the foundation strives to create opportunities for underserved communities and promote inclusive growth.

Prof. Alok Das, Dean, Innovation, Incubation and Entrepreneurship, IIT (ISM) Dhanbad expressed confidence that the partnership would contribute significantly to building a vibrant innovation ecosystem and preparing future-ready leaders capable of addressing societal and industry challenges through technology and entrepreneurship.

Rajni Singh
Dean (Corporate Communications)