



भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान (भारतीय खनि विद्यापीठ), धनबाद Indian Institute of Technology (Indian School of Mines), Dhanbad

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PRESS-RELEASE

Forging Grassroots Leadership: IIT (ISM) Dhanbad Hosts Five-Day Governance and Management Programme for Jharkhand's Panchayati Raj Representatives

In a distinguished stride towards empowering grassroots governance and strengthening the architecture of decentralized administration, the **Indian Institute of Technology (Indian School of Mines) Dhanbad**, in collaboration with the **Department of Panchayati Raj (DoPR), Government of Jharkhand**, has inaugurated a **five-day Leadership and Management Development Programme (MDP)** for elected representatives and functionaries of Panchayati Raj institutions. The programme is being held from **November 10 to 14, 2025**, at the **Executive Development Centre (EDC), IIT (ISM) Dhanbad**.

The inaugural session witnessed the participation of **27 Panchayati Raj functionaries** representing various districts across Jharkhand. The event commenced with a formal welcome and registration followed by the **inaugural address by Prof. Dheeraj Kumar, Deputy Director, IIT (ISM) Dhanbad**, who graced the occasion as the **Chief Guest**.

In his address, Prof. Kumar lauded the Ministry of Panchayati Raj for conceptualizing such initiatives, stating that *"this training will greatly benefit the Panchayati Raj functionaries by equipping them with modern administrative and leadership tools, thereby enhancing their ability to implement developmental projects efficiently and transparently."* He further noted that *"similar programmes conducted earlier by the Union Ministry of Panchayati Raj have proven instrumental in fostering leadership, digital awareness, and participatory rural development across the country."*

Prof. Keka Ojha, Dean, Continuing Education Programme, IIT (ISM) Dhanbad, in her remarks, emphasized the transformative impact of such programmes, asserting that *"this initiative will not only sharpen the administrative capacities of the participants but will also connect them to the IIT (ISM) legacy, as every individual trained here becomes a part of its vibrant alumni community."*

Providing an overview of the training, **Prof. Rajni Singh, Dean (Corporate Communications), IIT (ISM) Dhanbad, and Coordinator of the MDP**, stated that the programme has been carefully designed to strengthen the managerial, leadership, and digital competencies of Panchayati Raj representatives. *"Through this academic and experiential platform, participants will gain practical insights into project planning, financial management, and sustainable governance—fostering innovation, transparency, and inclusivity at the village level,"* she said.

The inaugural day's training sessions were led by **Prof. Rajni Singh** and **Prof. Rashmi Singh, Assistant Professor, Department of Management Studies and Industrial Engineering**. The morning sessions focused on **'Leadership and Communication'**, highlighting the role of effective dialogue, motivation, and team management in Panchayati Raj institutions. The afternoon sessions, led by **Prof. Rashmi Singh**, dealt with **'Project Planning and Management for Village Development'**, wherein participants explored strategies for designing and executing development projects, aligning them with community needs and available resources.



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Prof. Niladri Das, Professor, Department of Management Studies and Industrial Engineering, and Co-Coordinator of the programme, underlined the emphasis on financial discipline and systematic planning. *“Our focus will be on financial management, resource mobilization, and practical approaches to strengthen Panchayat-level governance,”* he said.

Prof. Rashmi Singh, Co-Coordinator of the programme, elaborated on the participatory nature of the training. *“The sessions will help participants learn how to optimally utilize funds, motivate people, and ensure inclusive rural progress. They will also share field challenges, which we will address collectively through interactive discussions and technology-driven governance models,”* she remarked.

The five-day programme encompasses diverse modules including **Leadership and Communication, Financial Management and Resource Mobilization, Project Evaluation, Digital Transformation for Rural Development, and Village Governance and Budgeting**. Each session blends academic rigor with practical case studies, enabling participants to derive implementable insights tailored to their Panchayat contexts. The MDP epitomizes IIT (ISM) Dhanbad’s continued commitment to **nation-building through capacity enhancement, digital empowerment, and institutional strengthening**. The programme serves as a confluence of knowledge and practice—creating a cadre of informed, empowered, and visionary local governance leaders.

The **valedictory session**, scheduled for **November 14, 2025**, will mark the culmination of this enriching academic engagement, symbolizing IIT (ISM) Dhanbad’s enduring pursuit of excellence in governance, innovation, and sustainable rural development.

Rajni Singh
Dean (Corporate Communications)